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The Truth Speaks

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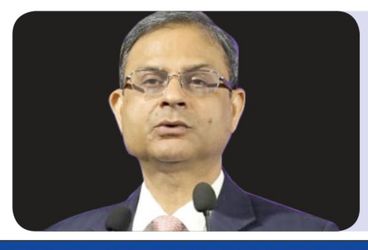
3 Dead, 2 Feared Dead After Boiler Tower Collapse P8



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State govt fixes sugarcane price at ₹3,300 per tonne

The Chief Minister noted that MSP and FRP are set by the Centre, urging it to raise prices and review export restrictions

BENGALURU

In response to prolonged protests by sugarcane farmers across the state, including Belagavi, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday announced a revised rate of ₹3,300 per tonne for sugarcane. The decision comes after extensive consultations with farmer leaders and sugar factory owners, following demands for a rate of ₹3,500 per tonne.

The announcement was made after a continuous seven-hour meeting at Vidhana Soudha, where farmers and factory owners discussed their grievances, including delays in payments, underreporting of sugar recovery, and other operational issues. Siddaramaiah clarified that sugar factories would pay ₹3,250 per tonne for sugarcane with 11.25% recovery, while the state government will provide an additional ₹50 per tonne, raising the effective rate to ₹3,300. Rates will vary slightly across districts depending on recovery.

The Chief Minister emphasized that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for sugar and the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane are determined by the Central Government, along with ethanol allocation and sugar export limits. Karnataka has urged the Centre through a delegation to address these issues, including raising the MSP and reviewing export restrictions.

Siddaramaiah also announced that a separate meeting would be held to resolve operational challenges faced by sugar factories and ensure timely payments to farmers. He dismissed claims of police excesses during farmer protests, stating that law enforcement acted only to maintain public order after some agitators damaged vehicles and attacked officers.

With an estimated sugarcane production of over 6 million tonnes this year, the state government reaffirmed its commitment to supporting farmers, urging cooperation from both factory owners and protestors to ensure smooth implementation of the revised price and resolution of long-standing grievances.

Farmers Withdraw Protest After Accepting CM Siddaramaiah's Offer

BENGALURU

Sri Shashikan Guruji of the Inchigeri Shakha Math, who led the farmers' protest at Gurlapur in Belagavi district, announced on Friday that the agitation for higher sugarcane prices would be withdrawn following an agreement based on the compromise formula proposed by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Guruji said that farmers would vacate the protest site and cooperate with sugar factories in beginning the crushing operations. "After discussions with factory representatives and farmers in Bengaluru, the Chief Minister has declared that growers will receive ₹3,300 per tonne of sugarcane — ₹3,250 from factories and an additional ₹50 from the State government. We accept this decision and will end our protest. This is a victory for farmers," he said, addressing the gathering in Gurlapur near Mudalagi. The protest had continued for nine days.

However, Guruji added that the movement was not over. "We will resume our agitation during the winter session of the Legislature in Belagavi. If around 10 lakh farmers gather before the Suvarna Soudha, we will demand an additional ₹1,000 per tonne," he declared.

A man was killed in a tiger attack in Moleyur range on Friday. The Minister instructed officials to close the safaris

Nagarhole and Bandipur safaris closed; Min orders to capture tiger

CHAMARAJANAGAR

Forest, Ecology and Environment Minister Eshwar B. Khandre has ordered the immediate closure of safaris and trekking activities in Nagarhole and Bandipur tiger reserves following a recent tiger attack that claimed the life of another farmer near Hale Heggodilu village in the Moleyur range of Saragur taluk.

Expressing deep sorrow over the incident, Minister Khandre directed the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden to suspend safari and trekking operations until further notice and to deploy all available forest personnel for the tiger capture mission. The victim, identified as 35-year-old Choudayya Naik, was killed by a tiger, marking the third such fatal attack within a month in the Mysuru-Chamarajanagar forest belt.

The minister recalled that a review meeting had been held in Bandipur on October 27 and another in Chamarajanagar on November 2 with District Incharge Minister K. Venkatesh, Social Welfare Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, and local legislators. During these meetings, officials were instructed to intensify efforts to capture the tiger and warned of possible safari suspension if attacks continued.

"After reviewing the situation, I have ordered an immediate ban on safaris at Bandipur and Nagarahole Tiger Reserves. Trekking activities in all conflict-dominated landscapes are also suspended until further orders."

—Eshwar B. Khandre, Minister

Following yet another attack, Khandre has now ordered that all safari staff, including drivers and officers, be reassigned to assist in the tiger capture. Senior wildlife officials, including the APCCF and Project Tiger directors, have been asked to camp on-site.

Illicit Nuclear Activity in Pakistan: MEA Responds to Donald Trump

NEW DELHI

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Friday responded to US President Donald Trump's claims that Pakistan was secretly testing nuclear weapons, saying such clandestine activity aligns with Islamabad's historical record.

MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, "Clandestine and illegal nuclear activities are in keeping with Pakistan's history, centred around decades of smuggling, export control violations, secret partnerships, the AQ Khan network and further proliferation. India has consistently highlighted these risks to the international community, and we have taken note of President Trump's comments."

Trump had alleged that Russia, China, Pakistan, and North Korea were secretly testing nuclear weapons, though he offered no specific evidence. Speculation around Pakistan's nuclear activity grew following a series of earthquakes in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region between April 30 and May 12, with magnitudes reportedly similar to those during Pakistan's 1998 Chagai-I and II tests.

Trump had claimed Russia, China, Pakistan and North Korea were secretly testing nuclear weapons; India stresses Pakistan's historical nuclear risks.

Speculation around Pak's nuclear activity grew following a series of earthquakes in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region between April 30 and May 12, with magnitudes reportedly similar to those during Pakistan's 1998 Chagai-I and II tests.

Pakistan has denied conducting any nuclear tests, reaffirming its unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing, despite not being a signatory to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). A senior Pakistani official told CBS News, "Pakistan will not be the first to resume nuclear tests."

Since 1998, Pakistan has refrained from nuclear detonations, while other major powers, including the US, Russia, and China, have also maintained long-standing moratoriums. North Korea remains the only country conducting nuclear tests in recent decades.

Jaiswal's statement underscores India's long-standing concerns regarding Pakistan's nuclear proliferation record and reiterates the need for continued international vigilance. This version is 300 words, keeps the key context, and maintains a neutral, factual tone while highlighting India's stance.

Rahul Alleges 'Chunav Chori'; Accuses Modi of Fraud

NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday intensified his allegations of "vote chori" (election theft), claiming that Prime Minister Narendra Modi came to power through such practices. Speaking to reporters before leaving for campaigning in Bihar, Gandhi said the party will continue exposing instances of electoral fraud and has substantial material to support its claims.

He asserted that India's youth must understand that the BJP allegedly manipulates elections. Gandhi cited Haryana's recent polls, calling them a "wholesale chori," where fake votes and photographs—including that of a Brazilian model—were reportedly used. He criticized the Election Commission for failing to respond to these allegations and accused the Modi government, Amit Shah, and the EC of undermining the constitutional principle of "one man, one vote."

Gandhi warned that similar malpractice could occur in Bihar, citing past allegations from Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, and Haryana. He emphasized that Congress will present evidence in Bihar to highlight the risks of "vote chori" and alleged systemic attempts to compromise the electoral process. The Leader of Opposition plans to continue campaigning and presenting these claims to mobilize awareness among voters ahead of upcoming elections.

Bihar: No Re-Poll Ordered, EC Finds No Irregularities

NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Friday confirmed that no re-polling was ordered after the first phase of the Bihar Assembly elections, in which 64.69% of 3.75 crore voters exercised their franchise. The phase covered 121 Assembly seats across 18 districts.

After thorough scrutiny, the EC stated, "No discrepancy or malpractice was found at any polling station and no re-poll was recommended." The process included videography, materials were resealed with Returning Officers' seals to ensure transparency.

The EC conducted post-poll scrutiny of voter registers and other poll-day documents following consolidated instructions aimed at detecting even subtle malpractices. The exercise was carried out smoothly in all constituencies with the presence of 121 Returning Officers, 121 General Observers, and around 455 candidates or their representatives. The commission emphasized that candidates had been informed beforeh and about the date, time, and venue. and all Forms 17A and related

QUICK READ

Police Sub-Inspector in Haryana beaten to death

CHANDIGARH

In a shocking incident, Sub-Inspector of Haryana Police Ramesh Kumar was brutally beaten to death with bricks and sticks outside his house in Hisar after he tried to stop a group of men from creating a disturbance. The incident occurred around midnight Thursday, when a group of youths created a ruckus in Kumar's neighborhood at Shamlal Dhani, Hisar. Kumar came out of his house on hearing the commotion and objected to their use of foul language. The group initially left the spot but returned an hour later with more people, arriving.

Rajasthan youth in Russia found dead in a dam

JAIPUR

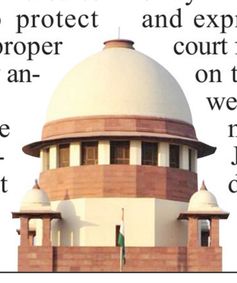
The body of a 22-year-old Rajasthan MBBS student studying in Russia was recovered this week from a dam near Ufa about 1,151 km east of Moscow,19 days after he went missing, raising suspicions of foul play. Ajit, son of Roop Singh Chaudhary, had been pursuing medical studies at Bashkir State Medical University since 2023. According to reports, he was last seen leaving his hostel around 11 a.m. on October 19 to buy milk, telling others he would return in half an hour. Despite extensive efforts, no trace of him was found until now.

SC Orders Removal of Stray Dogs from Schools, Hospitals

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday directed state authorities to remove stray dogs from institutional areas including schools, hospitals, sports complexes, bus stands, and railway stations, and shift them to designated shelters after sterilisation and vaccination.

A bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta, and N.V. Anjaria cited the rising incidents of dog bites in such areas as a major public safety concern. Justice Mehta emphasized that the measures were necessary to protect health and ensure proper management of stray animals.



Authorities have been asked to identify all government and private educational institutions, hospitals, and other public facilities within two weeks. Institutional heads, under district magistrates' supervision, must secure premises with fencing and other structural safeguards to prevent stray dog entry. Each facility is also required to appoint a nodal officer responsible for maintaining cleanliness and monitoring stray dog movement.

The bench clarified that stray dogs should not be returned to their original locations and ordered similar measures for cattle and other stray animals on highways and expressways. The apex court fixed further hearings on the matter after eight weeks, following its suo motu case initiated in July over reports of dog bites and rabies incidents, particularly among children.

DCM INAUGURATES STARTUP PARK

Bengaluru Set to Emerge as Global Startup Hub, Says DCM

BENGALURU

"Karnataka is an ocean of opportunities. Young people must seize them and move forward confidently," said Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Friday.

Shivakumar inaugurated India's first fully integrated Startup Park in Bengaluru, developed by Ique Ventures. The hub offers incubation, mentorship, investor access, and international networking under one roof. The project aims to nurture over 10,000 startups, create 1,00,000 jobs, and attract ₹50,000 crore in investments by 2030.

Shafi Shoukath, CEO of Ique Ventures, said Bengaluru has always been India's startup heartbeat. "Startup Park will be Karnataka's growth engine, empowering founders, generating employment, and making Bengaluru a global innovation hub," he added.

The Park features Startup School, Investor Studio, Pitch Lab, Mentorship Hub, co-working spaces, Fab Labs, Podcast Studios, Green Studios, and Wellness Zones. Its Incubation Program guides startups from ideation to market with mentorship, legal and financial support, branding help, and investor access.

The event also launched Startup TV, India's first media platform dedicated to startups. It will highlight entrepreneur stories, investor insights, and emerging innovations nationwide, providing a platform for India's growing startup ecosystem.

Shivakumar urged youth to embrace entrepreneurship, noting that Karnataka's diverse opportunities extend beyond technology into multiple industries, positioning the state for global recognition in innovation.

This initiative marks a milestone in India's startup ecosystem, combining infrastructure, mentorship, and media exposure to accelerate entrepreneurial growth and foster a vibrant, innovation-driven economy in Bengaluru.

QUICK READ

Panathur's pothole-ridden roads turn commute into 'adventure'

BENGALURU

The poor condition of the roads in Panathur area of Mahadevapura Assembly constituency has made it a 'bike adventure' experience for motorists every day. Riders are struggling to avoid potholes on their way to offices. The people of Panathur had already expressed their displeasure over the lack of infrastructure. He had warned that he would not pay taxes if the road was not built in the area, which has a large number of IT employees. Responding to the protests, the road repair work is currently underway, but due to the lack of an alternative route, motorists are disrupting the traffic.

Transport Department seizes 38 private buses

BENGALURU

The officials of transport department conducted a massive operation in the early hours of Friday morning and gave a shock to the violators. A total of 38 buses, including VRL, Sugama, Royal, Varalakshmi, Gayathri, GP, SR Travels, Meenakshi Travels Seater, Semi-Sleeper and Sleeper, have been seized. Private buses registered in Goa, Puducherry, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Diu and Daman, Odisha and Maharashtra were found to be evading taxes in the state. This has led to the seizure by the authorities. BMTC buses have been arranged so that passengers do not face any inconvenience while seizing private buses.

GBA Chief holds meeting with media

BENGALURU

A media interaction was held with the media today at the Malleswaram IPP Center under the chairmanship of GBA Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao regarding the Greater Bangalore Authority and 5 Municipal Corporations. Municipal Corporation Commissioners Rajendra Cholan, Pommala Sunil Kumar, KN Ramesh, Dr KV Rajendra, Additional Commissioner Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar, Bismail Technical Director Prahlad and other officials were present on this occasion.

Joshi should apologize to the state's farmers: CM

Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah slammed Union Minister Prahlad Joshi for making false claims about the state's ethanol allocation

BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has strongly criticized Union Minister Prahlad Joshi for making false claims regarding ethanol allocation, accusing him of being a "loyal follower of the BJP who has made lies his household god." He clarified that the ethanol allocation from Karnataka to oil marketing companies stands at 116.30 crore litres and not 47 crore litres, as claimed by Joshi. Siddaramaiah said Joshi ignored the dignity of his ministerial post by spreading blatant lies. During his press conference, the Chief Minister explained that in 2024–25, the total ethanol production capacity of 46 distilleries in Karnataka was 270 crore litres, while only 47 crore litres were allocated to oil companies. He pointed out that this figure was not provided by the Karnataka government but was in fact part of Joshi's own written reply in the Lok Sabha on August 6, 2025. "If Joshi's current statement is true, then his parliamentary reply must have been false. Either way, he cannot escape being branded a liar," Siddaramaiah stated.

He added that instead of supporting the state's pro-farmer demand for ethanol allocation based on production capacity, Joshi had falsely accused the government of betraying farmers.The Chief Minister reminded Joshi that Maharashtra Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis, also from the BJP, had written to him seeking an increase in the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane and the minimum support price (MSP) for sugar. Demanding an apology, Siddaramaiah said Joshi's misleading statements were intended to pit farmers against the state government. "If Joshi truly wishes to help farmers, he should urge Prime Minister Narendra Modi to purchase more ethanol from Karnataka and atone for betraying the farming community," Siddaramaiah concluded.

Commissioner listens to citizens' grievances

BENGALURU

To directly address citizens' grievances within the Bengaluru North City Corporation limits, Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar conducted a Phone-in Programme on Friday at 7 a.m. from the Byatarayanapura control room on Amruthahalli Main Road.

During the session, 17 complaints related to irregular garbage collection and disposal were received. The Commissioner instructed officials to take immediate corrective measures and ensure timely and regular waste collection in every ward.

Citizens also voiced concerns about the increasing stray dog menace across several areas. The Commissioner directed the Animal Husbandry officials to identify and capture aggressive dogs on priority, provide necessary medical care, and adopt preventive measures to safeguard the public. Several complaints pertained to potholes and damaged roads. The Commissioner stated that ongoing day-and-night operations are already in place for pothole filling but instructed engineers to expedite the process, maintain high-quality standards, and ensure smooth traffic movement. All grievances have been documented, reviewed, and forwarded to respective officials for action.

Citizens, including Harsha from AMS Layout and Sudarshan from Yelahanka, appreciated the Commissioner and the Corporation for ongoing civic works. Since the programme began six weeks ago, 331 complaints have been received—176 resolved and the rest under progress. To ensure citizens' grievances are heard directly, resolved promptly, and to continuously monitor the progress of civic and developmental works, the Commissioner will continue the Phone-in Programme every Friday.

The Corporation received a total of 54 complaints from 43 callers, including:

- Road maintenance and repairs: 9
- Solid waste and plastic issues: 18
- Advertisement and streetlight maintenance: 4
- Hazardous trees/ health and sanitation: 1 each
- OFC, park, traffic, and stormwater drain issues: 2 each
- Animal husbandry: 8
- Unauthorized constructions: 5

British Council launches 'Creative Convergence' in Bengaluru

BENGALURU

The two-day event brings together creative leaders, policymakers and entrepreneurs from both nations to explore how innovation, inclusion and collaboration can shape the future of the creative economy. British Council, the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities, inaugurated the first edition of Creative Convergence: Growth Reimagined today at the Bangalore International Centre, Bengaluru. The event celebrates the strength and creativity of India–UK partnerships through thought-provoking discussions, artistic showcases, and collaborative sessions designed to reimagine the future of the creative economy. Creative Convergence builds upon British Council's efforts towards cultivating international creative networks and advances the objectives of the India-UK Programme of Cultural Cooperation (2025-2030) signed in May 2025 by the UK's Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, and India's Union Minister for Culture and Tourism. The initiative seeks to deepen cultural ties between India and the UK while demonstrating the power of creativity to catalyse economic growth and social change. The event drew over 200 participants, with Chandru Iyer, British Deputy High Commissioner to Karnataka and Kerala, in attendance, alongside Alison Barrett MBE, Country Director India, British Council; Janaka Pushpanathan, Director South India, British Council; and Hema Singh Rance, Director Arts India, British Council.

Following the plenary address, the opening session 'From Local Stories to Global Stages: Scaling India's Creative Talent and Industries for Worldwide Impact' kicked off, followed by the inauguration of the Innovation Space and a two-day Arts Bazaar, curated by Rashmi Dhanwani, Founder-Director, Art X Company & Festivals from India.

AI, ML help police nab foreign drug peddler

BENGALURU

With the assistance of AI and ML (Machine Learning) systems, a foreign national involved in the sale of banned narcotic substances has been arrested, and 361 ecstasy tablets (total weight 162 grams) valued at Rs 8 lakh were seized.

In a major breakthrough against the illegal trafficking of narcotic substances, the City Police achieved significant success on the morning of November 5, 2025. At around 9.53 am, a local resident near an apartment in Chikkabanahalli, Kadugodi, noticed a person talking on the phone about narcotic substances and immediately informed the "Namma 112" helpline. The AI and ML based 112 Control Room registered the information and alerted the Hoysala–233 patrol vehicle attached to the Kadugodi Police Station. The patrol vehicle was dispatched at 9.55 am, and within just 16 minutes, ASI Dayananda Swamy and AHC Prabhakar reached the spot and detained the foreign national. Upon searching, they recovered 361 ecstasy tablets total weight 162 grams worth Rs 8,00,000 lakh from his possession.

This successful operation was made possible through the AI (Artificial Intelligence) and ML (Machine Learning) systems under the Bengaluru Safe City Project.

Give priority to cleanliness: Additional Commissioner

BENGALURU

On Friday morning, Additional Commissioner for Development Daljit Kumar inspected the mass cleaning work being carried out under the leadership of the Chief Engineer on GM Palya Main Road in CV Raman Nagar constituency and instructed the officials to give top priority to cleanliness.

On this occasion, noting the encroachment on the footpath, he instructed the officials to clear the encroachment.

Places where cleaning work was carried out were , uauthorized flex/banners and construction waste and other waste were removed in the Sunkenahalli ward limits of Chickpet constituency, Cleaning work was carried out in the basement of KR Market, Cleaning work was carried out on GM Palya main road and roadside waste was cleared.

City sees surge in vehicles amid GST cuts and festive demand

BENGALURU

At least 2,774 new vehicles hit Bengaluru's roads every day in October, driven by GST cuts and festive offers during Dasara and Deepavali. Transport department data showed a sharp increase compared with September, when only 1,894 vehicles were registered daily on average.

The city now has around 1.2 crore registered vehicles, including 83.8 lakh two-wheelers and 24 lakh cars. Experts warn that such rapid growth is worsening traffic jams and pollution, while public transport expansion continues at a slow pace.

The transport department, one of Karnataka's top revenue-generating agencies, has set a target of Rs 15,000 crore for 2025–26. Officials expressed confidence that continued vehicle demand and upcoming infrastructure projects would help achieve this goal.

Regional Transport Offices (RTOs) across Bengaluru reported a heavy rush of applicants, leading to extended working hours. Officials said many buyers delayed registration until after the GST cuts took effect on 22 September to benefit from the revised rates.

The central government's decision to reduce GST on two-wheelers up to 350cc from 28% to 18% and a similar cut for small cars significantly boosted sales. The rate reduction encouraged buyers to advance their purchases to enjoy lower prices.

Registrations of cars priced below Rs 10 lakh increased by 4,000 units compared with October 2024. Officials said middle-class buyers took advantage of the reduced tax rates and festive discounts to purchase affordable vehicles.

Festive months traditionally bring higher vehicle sales, but this October saw a record rise due to the combined impact of GST benefits and Diwali-Dasara demand. Dealers reported a strong revival in customer interest compared with the previous year.

Transport Commissioner AM Yogeesh said the department's revenue rose by Rs 230 crore in October 2025 compared with the same month last year. The total revenue increased from Rs 1,157 crore in October 2024 to Rs 1,387 crore this year.

Total vehicle registrations soared from 56,831 in September to 86,014 in October, marking one of the biggest monthly jumps in recent years. Officials attributed this surge to the festive season and buyers taking advantage of reduced tax rates on vehicles.

Rowdy sheeter attempts suicide in front of police station

BENGALURU

A disturbing incident took place in front of Sampigehalli police station. Mohammed Siddiqui alias Burn

Siddiqui, a notorious rowdy sheeter, tried to commit suicide by pouring petrol in front of the Sampigehalli police station on the allegation that his wife had cheated on him. Due to the timely action of the police, his life was saved and further disaster was averted. Mohammed Siddiqui, a rowdy sheeter from KG Halli, is an accused in several serious cases, including robbery, murder and attempt to murder. At around 12.30 am, Siddiqui brought petrol in a water bottle and came to the Sampigehalli police station. He was deeply hurt when he came to know that his wife had come to the police station to lodge a complaint against him due to a family dispute. It is learnt that this is the reason why he tried to commit suicide. The police at the police station were alerted when they saw Siddiqui trying to set himself ablaze with a lighter after pouring petrol. The police swung into action and did not allow him to catch fire and immediately doused the fire and rescued Siddiqui. He was later admitted to a local hospital. According to reports, 10-15% of Siddiqui's body was burnt in the incident. He is currently undergoing treatment and is out of danger. A case has been registered against Mohammed Siddiqui alias Burn Siddiqui at Sampigehalli police station for attempting to commit suicide.

HIGH COURT DISMISSES DIVORCE

Divorce cannot be granted on baseless allegations: HC

BENGALURU

The High Court has dismissed a petition filed by a husband seeking divorce without knowing the date of birth and age of his child, as his wife had gone to her hometown for childbirth, and said that a divorce cannot be granted considering the baseless allegations against the wife.

The bench of Justices Jayant Banerjee and Umesh M Adiga passed this order while hearing a petition filed by a man from Rajajinagar, challenging the family court order dismissing his divorce petition alleging that his wife was torturing him.

The bench, after hearing the arguments and perusing the documents in the petition, said that the petitioner husband does not know how many months pregnant his wife was when she went to her hometown for delivery. He does not know when their child was born or how old the child is. Also, he is not aware of the child's date of birth mentioned in the certificate submitted to the court. The bench said that although he said that he has worked in various companies, he is not interested in doing any job at present.

Also, although the wife said that she had filed a complaint against him, no complaint was filed as per the allegations.

However, the wife's parents had filed a complaint to stop the fight as they were fighting in front of her husband's house.

Although the husband said that he would come home, he said that he was not interested in living a married life with his wife.

Also, the court dismissed the petition, saying that since there was no evidence to prove that the wife had abused him, the petitioner could not place any credence on the husband's allegations.

Pothole repair and road devept accelerated in Bengaluru

BENGALURU

As per the orders of the Chief Minister and the instructions given by the Deputy Chief Ministers, road development works have been accelerated by closing potholes, asphalting major roads, and constructing CC roads in the jurisdiction of the Bangalore Central Municipal Corporation, said Rajendra Cholan, Commissioner of the Bangalore Central Municipal Corporation. As per the directions of the Commissioner, road development works were carried out at the following places in the jurisdiction of the Bangalore Central Municipal Corporation last night. Details of the places where road development work was undertaken: Reseldar Road and surrounding roads in Gandhinagar constituency, Malleshpalya Main Road in CV Raman Nagar constituency, Kaggadasapura Main Road, Potholes have been closed on Wilson Garden and Chinnayannapalya.

QUICK READ

Technical glitch causes delay in citywide post offices

BENGALURU

Postal services were affected due to technical issues, leading to long queues and extended waiting periods for customers at registered post, speed post, and parcel counters of post offices across the city. Customers have been complaining of slow service at post offices since Monday. A senior GPO official told, the disruption was due to technical issues with the server, which was probably overloaded after a non-working day on Wednesday. The server handles transactions from all over the country. The issue is being attended to, and we have resumed taking bulk orders as well, he said.

Kallahalli Electric Crematorium shut for furnace maintenance

BENGALURU

The crematorium will be temporarily shut down in order to carry out emergency repair and maintenance work of the furnaces under the annual electricity maintenance of Kallahalli Electric Crematorium under the jurisdiction of Bangalore Central Municipal Corporation. Further, due to emergency repair and maintenance work of the furnaces being carried out at Kallahalli Electric Crematorium, the said crematorium is being temporarily shut down for 16 days from November 10 to Nov 25.

State level volleyball tournament at Sans Public School

BENGALURU

Sans Public School in Nandini Layout of the city organised Sans Cup 2025. The state level inter-school and inter-college volleyball tournament was grandly organized. More than 50 schools and colleges from different parts of the state participated in this tournament. The programme was inaugurated by Mahalaxmi Layout assembly constituency MLA K Gopalaiah.

School President Srikanthappa, former corporator KV Rajendrakumar and other dignitaries were present on the occasion. The dignitaries said that such sports competitions help in the physical and mental development of students. Matches will be held in various categories for three days and prizes will be distributed to the winning teams. Sans Public School successfully conducted this programme and became an example for sports lovers.

JDS alleges Cong govt in K'taka engaged in 'tax terrorism'

JDS protests in Bengaluru, accusing Karnataka Congress government of imposing heavy taxes and creating "tax terrorism."

BENGALURU

The Janata Dal (Secular) has strongly accused the Karnataka Congress government of creating a climate of "tax terrorism" in the state, claiming it is misleading the public under the guise of promises made through its so-called "five guarantees."

Leading the protest at Freedom Park in Bengaluru, thousands of JDS activists, under the leadership of city unit president and former MLA H.M. Ramesh Gowda, condemned the Congress government for burdening citizens with heavy taxes and rising prices.

Addressing the gathering, Ramesh Gowda alleged that despite allocating only ₹52,000 crore annually for the guarantees, the government misleads people into believing it is spending ₹4,09,549 crore on these schemes. In reality, the money is allegedly siphoned off into unnecessary projects benefiting contractors, while citizens continue to face price hikes and financial strain.

He highlighted multiple areas of concern, including increases in liquor and stamp duties, electricity tariffs, bus fares, milk and curd prices, as well as higher garbage collection and parking fees in Bengaluru. Gowda accused the Congress of creating an elaborate system to extract funds from citizens under the pretext of development, labeling the party a "tax-hungry" and corrupt administration with no precedence in independent India. The former legislator criticized the government's sudden price hikes, citing the recent ₹90 per kg increase in Nandini ghee as a stark example of the burden placed on ordinary citizens.

He also claimed the Congress government had failed to use GST reforms to reduce prices, instead exploiting the situation to increase revenue.

JDS leaders including Legislative Council member T.A. Sharavana, along with party figures Timmegowda and Shailaja Rao, participated in the protest, burning effigies of the state government to express their anger at its policies.

The protest underscored the party's message that the Congress administration has turned Bengaluru into an ATM for extracting money, imposing heavy taxes, and oppressing the public.

100 K'taka lawmakers skip 2024-25 asset declaration: Lokayukta

The list includes five cabinet ministers and legislators from Congress, BJP, and JD(S), with 30% of MLAs and 37% of MLCs non-compliant.

BENGALURU

The Karnataka Lokayukta has flagged 100 state lawmakers, including 66 MLAs and 28 MLCs, for failing to disclose their assets and those of their family members for the year 2024–25.

This declaration came after the statutory deadline for declaration passed on June 30. Section 22 (1) of the Karnataka Lokayukta bill mandates that every public servant shall declare their own and their families' assets by June 30. The second clause of the article empowers the Lokayukta to make, public, a list of non compliant public servants, after the deadline has passed.

The list includes five cabinet ministers: Minister of Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs KH Muniyappa, Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dinesh Gundu Rao, Minister for Housing, Works and Minorities Zameer Ahmed Khan, Minister of Hajj and Municipal Administration Rahim Khan, and Minister of Animal Husbandry and Sericulture K Venkatesh.

According to the Lokayukta, 30 percent of MLAs and 37% of MLCs in the state have failed to declare their assets.

Lawmakers from all parties in the state, including the ruling Congress, the BJP and the Janata Dal (Secular), figure in the list.

Other notable names on the list include KN Rajanna, Lakshman Savadi, Khaneez Fatima, Vinay Kulkarni, BK Sangameshwar, Nayana Motamma, CP Yogeshwar and C Puttarangashetty from Congress, and G Janardhana Reddy, B Suresh Gowda and K Gopalaiah from the BJP, as well as HD Revanna of the JD(S).

AICTE Chairman urges integrating ethics, humanity in education

BENGALURU

Integrating ethics, knowledge, and humanity into education is an important path before us, said Dr. T. G. Sitharam, Chairman of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

Speaking at the Vice Chancellors' Conclave on "Manthan: Integration of Indian Knowledge Systems in Contemporary Higher Education", organized by AICTE in collaboration with the Indian Council for Higher Education and the All India Management Association (AIMA) near Kengeri, he emphasized the need to adopt a value-based, holistic, and interdisciplinary approach to education. Implementing the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) within mainstream education remains a major challenge, he added.

Dr. M. K. Sridhar, President of the Centre for Educational Studies and an education expert, said that the Indian Knowledge System must be integrated keeping in mind the present and future needs of education.

He opined that this could be effectively achieved in a systematic and gradual manner. Dr. T. Kotireddy, Vice-Chancellor of ICFAI University, noted that the vast wealth of the Indian Knowledge System was sidelined due to colonial influences.

Integrating IKS with contemporary education is the way to achieve sustainable education, fostering lifelong learning, critical thinking, interdisciplinary understanding, and social-environmental responsibility, he said.

Dr. Muddu Vinay, Vice-Chancellor of IFHE, remarked that the Indian Knowledge System encompasses elements of artificial intelligence, education, and research. It also contains immense and untapped resources. Going beyond Western educational models, it can play a crucial role in management and technical education, he added.

Among others present at the conclave were Dr. Rohit Singh, Director of AIMA, Prof. Rakesh Mohan Joshi, Vice-Chancellor of IIFT, and Dr. Vinay Joshi, Academic Dean of IFHE.

ASC Centre & College marks 150 years of Vande Mataram

BENGALURU

ASC Centre & College is the premier institution for training all personnel of Army Service Corps of the Indian Army in various logistics related skills, located in Bengaluru. All ranks of the institution, and students of the Army Public School, Agaram gathered at the War Memorial and Animal Transport Memorial in the campus, to pay homage to the National Song and express pride and gratitude for the words that served as a rallying cry for unity during the Indian Freedom Struggle.

As the Prime Minister flagged off the yearlong commemoration, all ranks and students stood together and participated in the collective singing of the National Song along with the rest of the country. ASC Centre & College, being the bedrock for training and development of ASC soldiers, Agniveers and leaders of tomorrow.

Respect all languages but love Kannada: Nandish Hanche

BENGALURU

"Kannada is not a language of communication, Kannada is a symbol of our culture," said former president of the Kannada Book Authority Nandish Hanche.

Speaking as the chief guest at the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava organized at the JSS ATE College auditorium on Uttarahalli Main Road, he expressed his sadness that a situation has arisen where we, Kannadigas, are begging to save and develop Kannada.

None of our neighboring states celebrate Rajyotsava, no authority has been formed to save and develop the language, he called for respecting all languages in the era of artificial intelligence, but loving the Kannada language that is close to the heart and has given life more. Film actor Naveen Krishna inaugurated the programme and said that it is not enough to tear down the English nameplate and put up a Kannada nameplate, Kannada can be developed by interacting with non-native speakers in Kannada and teaching them Kannada as well.

Principal Dr Bhimsen Sorengaon, Professor Dean of the Student Welfare Department Dr D Mahesh Kumar, Administrative Officer Veeresh, along with teaching and non-teaching staff and students were present.

On this occasion, students performed Veeragase, Dollu Kunita, and various costumes and performed songs depicting Kannada culture.

Mohan Bhagavat visits Gali Anjaneya Swamy Temple

BENGALURU

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) Chief Dr Mohan Bhagwat visited the historic Shri Gaali Anjaneya Swami Temple on Mysore Road and had darshan of Anjaneya Swami. He offered special prayers and received the grace of God.

All India System Chief Mangesh Bendhe and District Pracharak Bharat Kumar were present on the occasion.

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) successfully completed its 100 years on Vijayadashami (October 2, 2025).

In the centenary year, it has been organizing various activities like Vijayadashami festivals, youth conferences, door-to-door outreach, Hindu conferences, social harmony conferences, and prominent citizens' seminars across the country.

As a continuation of this, a lecture program has been organized in Bengaluru on November 8 and 9, where Dr Mohan Bhagwat will speak. He has arrived in Bengaluru on Friday in this context.

The Swayamsevak Sangh, which is celebrating its centenary, is organizing a series of lectures titled '100 Years of Sangh Journey: New Horizons' in four parts of the country (New Delhi, Bengaluru, Mumbai and Kolkata), and Mohan Bhagwat will deliver the lecture. The first lecture series in Delhi has already been successful.

MLA inaugurates ₹6.5 cr worth professional girls' hostel

BENGALURU

The government is constructing a hostel for professional girls, which will facilitate the further education of the students, said MLA ST Somashekar.

Speaking after inaugurating the Dr BR Ambedkar Professional Girls' Hostel, which has been constructed at a cost of about Rs 6.50 crore by the Social Welfare Department with the grant of the Public Works Department in Rajiv Gandhi Nagar (Navagram) under the Agara Gram Panchayat of Yeshwantpur Assembly Constituency, he said that the well-equipped and magnificent building has been constructed for professional students and includes infrastructure.

It will benefit students from backward classes who are undergoing training for further education, students undergoing CET exams, medical, engineering and other training courses.

Agara Gram Panchayat President Latha Manjunath, VSSN former President Ramakrishna, Gangaraju, Taluk Panchayat former member Devaraj.

Social Welfare Department Joint Director Lakshman Reddy, Assistant Director JP Rajendra, Public Works Department AEE Raj Kumar, Umesh, Kumar, Murthy and others were present.

Man arrested for attempted murder at Bengaluru football stadium

BENGALURU

The police have arrested a man in connection with an alleged attempt to murder in which a football fan was chased with swords around a stadium by a gang of rivals during a Super Division League match of the Bengaluru Football Association on October 27.

The police arrested Mathew (25), the prime suspect who had managed to escape after allegedly attempting to kill S Sathya Kumar (32), who evaded the attack by fleeing from the stands and sheltering under the Bengaluru football stadium.

The police are on the lookout for other suspects, even as one of them, Tom Dobbin (25), who has a criminal record, has sought anticipatory bail in the case. The police said that Mathew did not have a criminal record.

A gang of seven people wielding swords and knives approached Kumar at around 4.30 pm in the Bengaluru football stadium, allegedly with the intent to kill him, the police said.

According to a police complaint filed by Kumar, based on which an FIR was registered by the Ashoknagar police station in central Bengaluru, the attempt to murder occurred as a consequence of a fight he had with Mathew, his associate Hari, and others the previous night.

Kumar has stated that he was a former resident of Gautampura, a lower-income colony in East Bengaluru which is a nursery for football talent, and that he was confronted by Mathew when he visited the Gautampura football ground on the night of October 26. Kumar has alleged that Mathew accused him of staring at a girl who was with him at the Gautampura ground and started a fight while also attempting to rob him.

CAUTION FOR ENCROACHERS

Illegal encroachment worth ₹ 8.65 cr cleared in city

BENGALURU

Encroached government land worth a total of Rs 8.65 crore was cleared under the leadership of Bangalore City Deputy Commissioner G Jagadeesh and taken into the possession of the government.

On Friday, Tahsildars of various taluks across Bangalore City District visited the illegally encroached footpaths, graveyards, Rajkaluve, Nakashe Dari, Kharabu Bande and government lake lands within their jurisdiction and carried out clearance operations. The total area cleared of encroachment of the footpath passing between Survey No.170, 2, 3 of Halehalli village of Attibele hobli of Anekal taluk is 0.10 guntas, with an estimated value of Rs. 0.15 lakhs. The total area cleared of encroachment of the cemetery of Survey No. 128 of Harappanahalli village of Jigani-2 hobli is 0.08 guntas, with an estimated value of Rs. 0.60 lakhs.

The total area cleared of encroachment of the Rajkaluve of Survey No. 144,143,136, 138,135, 134, 145, 68,151 of Narayanghatta village of Sarjapur-2 hobli is 0.20 guntas, with an estimated value of Rs. 2.00 crores.

The total area cleared of encroachments in the map of Baichaguppe village, Survey No. 47/1 & 47/2, Tavarekere hobli, Bangalore South Taluk is 0.08 guntas, with an estimated value of Rs. 0.40 lakhs. The total area cleared of encroachments in Kharabu Bande, Survey No. 15, Chandrashekarpur village, Begur hobli is 0.12 guntas, with an estimated value of Rs. 0.50 lakhs.

The total area cleared of encroachments in the government lake, Survey No. 38, Dasanapur village, Bangalore North Taluk is 1 acre, with an estimated value of Rs 5.00 crore.

Tahsildars and staff of various taluks were present on this occasion.

QUICK READ

Kalapratibhotsava to promote young artistic talent

Mandya

The Department of Kannada and Culture is organizing Kalapratibhotsava to identify, encourage, and promote artistic talents among children and youth. The event features competitions in three categories — Balapratibhe (8–14 years), Kishora Pratibhe (14–18 years), and Yuva Pratibhe (18–30 years). Competitions include classical dance, light music, painting, folk songs, instrumental music, and classical vocal forms. Youth participants can also compete in extempore speech and drama (group event). Applications must be submitted by 5 PM on November 10 to the Assistant Director, Department of Kannada and Culture, or sent by post to Sri Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar Kalamandira, Mandya–571401. District-level winners will advance to zonal and then state-level contests. Participants must attach their age proof and Aadhaar photocopy. For details, contact 08232-223197.

Farmer injured in tractor-bike collision in Chamarajanagar

Chamarajanagar

A farmer was injured in a road accident involving a tractor and a bike at Devarahalli village in Gundlupet taluk of Chamarajanagar district on Friday around noon. Mahesh, a farmer from Hangala village, was riding towards Devarahalli when a tractor belonging to another farmer from Javarahalli lost control and rammed into his bike. Mahesh sustained serious injuries in the collision and was immediately rushed to the Gundlupet hospital by local residents for treatment. Police visited the spot soon after the incident and have initiated further investigation into the case.

Guv inaugurates Tumkur University's 'Gnanasiri Campus'

K'taka Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot inaugurated Tumkur University's new Gnanasiri Campus and urged students to contribute actively to nation building

TUMAKURU

Karnataka Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot inaugurated Tumkur University's newly developed Gnanasiri Campus at Bidarkatte on Friday, which includes the Academic Block, Arts Block, and Pre-Examination Training Centre.

Addressing the gathering, the Governor said that "Gnanasiri" symbolizes an ever-flowing stream of knowledge that enlightens students, teachers, and society. He stated that the new campus marks a milestone in the university's progress, enhancing its capacity for education, research, and innovation.

Highlighting the importance of modern infrastructure, he noted that the new facilities will foster an enriched learning environment. The Pre-Examination Training Centre, he added, would help students prepare for competitive exams and serve the nation effectively. "I am confident Tumkur University will nurture leaders who will excel in governance, science, and education," he remarked.

Referring to India's rich intellectual traditions, the Governor said the National Education Policy (NEP) has integrated ancient wisdom from the Vedas, Ayurveda, and Philosophy into modern education. He urged students to reinterpret this heritage for today's world.

Pointing to India's strides toward self-reliance, he said initiatives like Make in India and Digital India are bridging rural-urban divides while promoting equality and transparency.

Governor Gehlot called universities vital to India's vision of becoming a developed nation by 2047, nurturing innovation, creativity, and national consciousness. He congratulated ministers, legislators, and university officials for their efforts in creating the new campus.

The event was attended by Ministers Dr. G. Parameshwar, Dr. M.C. Sudhakar, MLAs T.B. Jayachandra, B. Suresh Gowda, and Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Venkateswaralu.

NSUI seeks Kageri's removal over national anthem remark

SHIVAMOGGA

NSUI activists in Shivamogga staged a protest demanding the dismissal of MP Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri, accusing him of insulting the national anthem Jana Gana Mana by claiming it was composed to praise the British.

The National Students' Union of India (NSUI) staged a protest in Shivamogga demanding the dismissal of BJP MP Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri from Parliament for allegedly insulting India's national anthem, Jana Gana Mana. The protestors accused Kageri of making disrespectful remarks by claiming that the anthem was originally composed to welcome the British.

According to NSUI, during the "Walk for Unity" (Ekateya Nadige) event held on November 5 in Honnavar, Kageri stated that Vande Mataram should have been chosen as the national anthem instead of Jana Gana Mana, which, he claimed, was written in praise of the British. The statement drew sharp criticism from NSUI, which called it an affront to the pride and identity of 140 crore Indians.

Protesters highlighted that Kageri, who previously served as Karnataka's Education Minister and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, should be promoting respect for the Constitution and national symbols. Instead, they alleged, he made divisive statements influenced by "Manuvadi" (casteist) ideology, undermining national unity.

The NSUI demanded that President Droupadi Murmu immediately remove Kageri from his parliamentary position for insulting the national anthem and urged him to apologize to the people of India. The protest saw participation from Karnataka State Textile Infrastructure Development Corporation Chairman Chetan K., NSUI district president Vijay, office bearers Ravi Katikere, Ravi Kumar, Chandrojirao, and several other youth leaders and NSUI members.

BJP leader's son held in POCSO offence

MANIPAL

Police arrested a 20-year-old youth, identified as Sreeshanth Poojari from Katapadi Manipura , after he was found in a lodge with a minor girl in Manipal. The Udupi Women's Police registered a case under the POCSO Act and produced him before the court, which remanded him to judicial custody.The accused, reportedly the son of a local BJP leader, had taken the minor to the lodge by promising marriage. Acting on a tip-off, the girl's parents, along with the police, raided the spot. He had allegedly submitted a fake Aadhaar card for the girl. Another girl has also filed a complaint accusing him of sexual assault under similar circumstances.

Farmers must emerge as agri-entrepreneurs: Minister

SHIVAMOGGA

Agriculture Minister and Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences Pro-Chancellor, N. Cheluvarayaswamy, urged farmers to evolve into entrepreneurs through sustainable and profitable farming practices. He was speaking after inaugurating the Krishi-Horticulture Fair 2025 at the Navule campus, themed "Sustainable Agriculture through Cooperative Farming." The event was jointly organized by the University, Agriculture and allied departments, Sri Kshetra Dharmasthala Rural Development Project, and B.C. Trust.

The minister said such fairs help farmers learn about new technologies, high-yield varieties, and cost-effective farming methods. He emphasized that both Central and State governments are providing various schemes to turn agriculture into a successful enterprise. Cheluvarayaswamy mentioned that new high-yield rice varieties like MO-4 are being introduced, and research is ongoing to develop flood-tolerant crops similar to those in the Philippines.

Highlighting the government's focus on technology-driven agriculture, he said there is no shortage of seeds or fertilizers in the state, and soil testing facilities are being strengthened. Digital technology is being integrated into farming practices to improve productivity.

He added that Karnataka has expanded agricultural education by establishing new colleges in Moodigere, Davangere, Belagavi, Bengaluru, and Mandya. Despite recent crop losses due to floods, the government has extended ₹8,500 in additional compensation per hectare. Farmers were encouraged to add value to their produce to increase income.

During the event, outstanding farmers and women farmers were honored. Several dignitaries, university officials, and students participated in the program.

DC inspects helipad in Melukote ahead of VP's visit

MANDYA

In preparation for the Vice President's scheduled visit to Melukote tomorrow, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumar conducted an inspection of the helipad site located in front of the Primary Health Centre to ensure safety and readiness for helicopter landing and takeoff.

On Friday, the DC, along with officers from the Indian Air Force, personally supervised the landing and takeoff trials of a helicopter to assess ground conditions and overall security. Following Dr. Kumar's recommendations, IAF officers conducted multiple test landings and takeoffs to confirm the safety standards. The Vice President is expected to arrive in Melukote aboard a special IAF helicopter and land at this designated helipad.

Since limited space is available near the Primary Health Centre, arrangements have been made for accompanying security helicopters to land at the SET Polytechnic Ground.

Hundreds of local residents and students gathered to witness the helicopter trials with the scenic Yoganarasimhaswamy Hill as the backdrop.

District In-charge Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy will be present at the helipad on November 9 to receive Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan.

Language unites people, says Dr. Kiran Gajanur

KALABURAGI

Language is an integral part of human life, enabling individuals to share thoughts, express emotions, acquire knowledge, and pass on cultural traditions and heritage to future generations, said Dr. Kiran Gajanur, Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Administration at Karnataka Central University. He spoke as the chief guest at the Karnataka State Festival organized at Khwaja Bande Nawaz University on Friday.

Dr. Gajanur emphasized that humans learn and understand all subjects through language, which also provides a medium for creating literary works reflecting history and culture. He highlighted the richness of Kannada, noting its legacy of outstanding literature and poetry. He urged everyone to speak, teach, and preserve the Kannada language, calling it a fundamental responsibility of all Kannadigas.

Prof. Ashfaq Ahmed, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of KBN University, discussed Karnataka's 2,000-year-old history, mentioning that post-independence Kannada-speaking regions formed the Mysore State, which was renamed Karnataka in 1973. Dean Dr. Nishat Arif Husaini delivered the presidential address during the event.

As part of the celebrations, awards were presented to students and faculty who excelled in various competitions. The event included prayers led by Dr. Abdul Samad from the Urdu Department, a welcome address by Dr. Badrinath Kulkarni of the Biotechnology Department, and an introduction by Dr. Aslam from the History Department. Dr. Sanganagouda Hiregoudar from the Kannada Department delivered the inaugural address, while Dr. Sameena from Sociology moderated the session. The History Department's Dr. Yogesh Rathod conducted the prize distribution, and Assistant Professor Rajpatel from Kannada Department offered a vote of thanks.

The program highlighted the importance of language in uniting communities, preserving cultural identity, and fostering education and literary excellence in Karnataka.

Kurubur Shanthakumar demands fair price for sugarcane

DAVANAGERE

Karnataka Sugarcane Growers Association President and farmer leader Kurubur Shanthakumar has urged the state government to fix the sugarcane price at ₹3,500 per tonne by calculating profits from by-products as per the State Advisory Price Act. He said the current FRP rate is unscientific and demanded that the Chief Minister take a firm decision and lead a delegation of farmer leaders to meet the Prime Minister on this issue.

Addressing a press conference, Shanthakumar criticized the government for ignoring farmers' needs, noting that while MPs, MLAs, and government employees get regular pay hikes, crop loss compensation standards have not been revised in eight years. He termed this negligence a betrayal of farmers.

He demanded a revision in NDRA norms to provide minimum compensation of ₹25,000 per acre for rainfed crops, ₹40,000 for irrigated horticultural crops, and ₹60,000 for commercial crops. He also urged the Centre to grant Karnataka a ₹5,000 crore special relief package similar to Punjab's.

Highlighting the high cultivation cost, he said the agriculture department itself reported to the Centre that producing a tonne of sugarcane costs ₹3,700. He demanded installation of government-regulated weighing machines at sugar factories.

Appointment of administrative officers for Udupi, Karkala, and Kundapura

UDUPI

The term of the elected councils for municipalities, municipal councils, and town panchayats across the state has now concluded. In accordance with Section 389 of the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964, the government has issued orders appointing administrative officers to manage the day-to-day functioning of local bodies whose council terms have ended. These appointments are intended to ensure continuity in administration and safeguard the governance interests of urban local bodies until the newly elected councils assume office.

Accordingly, the Udupi Deputy Commissioner assumed charge as the Administrative Officer of Udupi City Corporation from November 30, overseeing its routine operations. Similarly, the Karkala Municipal Council, whose term has ended, came under the charge of the Kundapura Sub-Divisional Officer from November 28. The Kundapura Municipal Council is being administered by the same Sub-Divisional Officer from December 4, ensuring proper management of civic affairs in the absence of an elected body.

Meanwhile, the term of the Kapu Municipal Council has not yet ended. However, the Saaligrama Town Panchayat, whose council tenure has concluded, has been placed under the administrative supervision of the Brahmavar Tehsildar starting from December 3.

These interim administrative appointments are a routine procedure to maintain uninterrupted governance, timely decision-making, and effective functioning of local civic services.

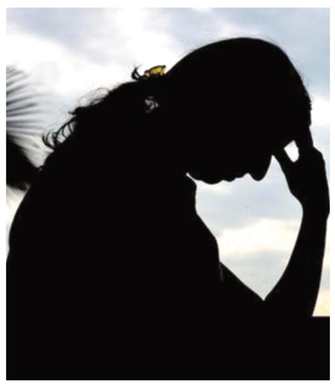
They ensure that essential services, urban development works, and regulatory functions continue without disruption while preparing for a smooth transition to the newly elected councils.

This step reflects the state government's commitment to uphold administrative stability and efficiency in local governance across Udupi district.

LOVER HARASSMENT TRAGEDY

21-year-old woman ends life over lover's harassment

HASSAN



A 21-year-old woman from Jagara Halli village in Hassan taluk ended her life allegedly due to constant harassment from her lover. Even a week after the tragic incident, the accused remains unarrested, leaving the victim's grieving parents demanding justice.

The deceased, Priyanka, daughter of Jayaram Naik and Shobha, was working as an accountant at a private company in Bengaluru and residing in a rented house at Shivapura, Nagasandra. She had been in a relationship for the past three months with Sumanth, a youth from Alur taluk. Despite Priyanka being two years older than him, the couple had decided to marry. However, suspicion soon crept into the relationship, leading to frequent arguments.

Reports suggest that Sumanth repeatedly harassed Priyanka, accusing her of infidelity and pressuring her with threats, even telling her to "end her life" if she could not stay with him. Unable to bear the mental torture, Priyanka hanged herself in her residence.

Before taking the extreme step, she reportedly recorded an audio message on her phone, citing Sumanth's role in pushing her to suicide. Police have seized her mobile for investigation.

A case has been registered against Sumanth at Peenya Police Station in Bengaluru. However, no arrest has been made yet. Outraged by the inaction, Priyanka's parents have warned that they will stage an indefinite protest in front of the police station if the accused is not arrested soon.

QUICK READ

Congress MLA's daughter sets Guinness record

Chitradurga

Saraswati, daughter of Congress MLA K.C. Veerendra Pappi, has made her mark in the Guinness Book of World Records for her remarkable performance in an extreme sports challenge. She set the record by holding a 47.7 kg bag while maintaining a reverse abdominal plank position for 2.1 minutes. The extraordinary feat was achieved during an extreme sports event held in Chitradurga on June 21. Saraswati's achievement has brought pride to her family and the region, showcasing both her strength and endurance on an international platform.

Dist to celebrate national library week with student competitions

Chitradurga

The City Central Library in Chitradurga will celebrate National Library Week from November 14 to 20. As part of the week-long event, various competitions for school and college students will be conducted on November 12, 13, and 18 within the city limits. Education officers and deputy directors have been informed to nominate two students per school or college, with letters already sent to the institutions by the library. Principals must submit student names to the library by 5 p.m. on November 11 if not already received. Competition schedule includes a drawing contest on "Natural Environment" for primary and upper primary students on November 12, essay competitions on "Importance of Libraries and Books" for high school students and on SL Bhyrappa's life for PU students on November 13, and a 10-minute speech competition on SL Bhyrappa for all students on November 18. The City Central Library officials have encouraged active student participation to promote reading habits and celebrate literary contributions.

Chikkaballapur leads State in digitization progress: PN Ravindra

Chikkaballapur leads Karnataka in October, achieving highest digital governance and service delivery records.

CHIKKABALLAPUR

Chikkaballapur district has emerged as the top performer in Karnataka in implementing the Digital India initiatives for October, according to District Collector PN Ravindra. The achievements were highlighted during the "Digital Awareness and Outreach" program held at the District Collectorate auditorium, attended by senior officials and digital program coordinators.

During October, a total of 62,451 applications were processed under various digital schemes in the district. Of these, 61,556 applications were successfully completed within the prescribed limits, demonstrating strict adherence to service standards. 4,001 applications were returned for corrections, and 310 applications are still under processing. Timely completion of applications ensures that citizens can access government services efficiently, and the district administration has maintained a transparent tracking mechanism to monitor the entire process.

The collector emphasized that the district's leading position reflects the commitment of local officials to leverage technology for public service delivery. Regular monitoring, adherence to deadlines, and inter-departmental coordination were cited as key factors behind this performance. Additionally, the authorities discussed measures to address delays in pending applications and emphasized the role of departmental officers in maintaining accountability. Notices regarding online compliance were issued to concerned officials to ensure smooth implementation of digital schemes.

Officials from various taluks and district-level departments attended the program, reinforcing the collaborative approach adopted by Chikkaballapur in advancing digital governance.

The event highlighted the importance of awareness campaigns, training, and citizen engagement to sustain the momentum of digital initiatives.

District reviews implementation of 5 guarantee schemes

Chikkaballapur officials reviewed five welfare schemes, focusing on outreach, beneficiary awareness, and coordination, ensuring timely access, effective implementation, and strengthened monitoring for accountable service delivery

CHIKKABALLAPUR

The implementation of five key social welfare schemes in Karnataka—Anubhav, Grishalakshmi, Grishajyoti, Vikas, and Yuvanidhi—was reviewed in detail by district officials in Chikkaballapur, with a special focus on outreach, progress, and public awareness initiatives.

The review session was chaired by Yaluvahalli N. Ramesh, District Program Officer responsible for overseeing the guarantee schemes. During the meeting, officials examined LED presentations and reports submitted by local implementing agencies to assess the current status of scheme coverage, beneficiaries' awareness, and operational challenges.

The session also emphasized engagement with the public to ensure that beneficiaries, particularly women and children, are fully informed about scheme entitlements and benefits. Special attention was given to monitoring the effectiveness of local implementation and addressing any gaps in service delivery.

Officials in attendance included R. Venkatesh Reddy, nodal officer for Kannada and cultural affairs, D.M. Ravikumar, sub-divisional officer for community development, and M. Junjanna, officer for youth and social programs. Representatives from various departments across the district actively participated, providing updates on enrollment, fund disbursement, and public interaction activities.

The meeting concluded with a consensus on improving coordination among departments, strengthening monitoring mechanisms, and ensuring that all eligible beneficiaries receive timely and transparent access to the schemes. This initiative reflects the district administration's commitment to effective implementation of government welfare programs and fostering public trust through accountability and outreach.

HC should have questioned RSS registration: Fmr Min

KALABURAGI

Former minister C.M. Ibrahim has raised concerns over the registration of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) in the context of its legal battles.

Speaking to the media in Kalaburagi, Ibrahim said the RSS, which approached the court claiming that Chittapur was not allowing their processions, should have first clarified its registration status. "If the organization were properly registered, such issues would not have arisen," he remarked.

He questioned whether the RSS is officially registered under the Cooperative Department or merely has a political registration.

Ibrahim stressed that the organization should complete its registration before seeking government permission and accountability. He challenged the RSS to disclose the source of its funding and detailed expenditure, asking why there is so much resentment when such questions are raised.

Ibrahim further criticized the RSS for its apparent disregard for farmers and marginalized communities, saying the organization seems primarily focused on promoting the saffron flag and implementing Manusmriti in the country.

He echoed historical warnings by leaders like Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Babu Rajendra Prasad about the potential threat posed by such activities. He also welcomed recent directives from Minister Priyank Kharge to restrict the RSS's activities in government and grant-funded institutions, calling it a positive development.

Uttara Kannada District Kannada Literary Conference to be Held in Dandeli

KARWAR

The 25th Uttara Kannada District Kannada Literary Conference is set to take place on December 13, 14, and 15 at the Old City Council Grounds in Dandeli City. The decision was made at a meeting held at the Taluk Administration Hall, led by Dandeli Tahsildar and Haliyal Tahsildar.

MLA R.V. Deshpande has been elected as the chairman of the reception committee, while Dandeli Tahsildar Shailesh Paramanand has been appointed as the working chairman of the conference. Haliyal Tahsildar Somanakatte will serve as the honorary vice-chairman, and other officers have been appointed to various roles.

The conference is expected to attract dignitaries and literature lovers from across the state and district. Kannada Sahitya Parishat District President B.N. Vasare has announced that rooms in the hostels will be available at discounted rates for the visiting guests. He has also requested the cooperation of the police department in managing the parking problem and urged that steps be taken to bring college students to the conference.

Tahsildar Shailesh Paramanand has called on all department officials to work together to make the conference a success. "Let us make the 25th Kannada Sahitya Sammelana a historic conference," he said. Haliyal Tahsildar Somanakatte has expressed his pride in hosting the conference and has requested the cooperation of everyone involved.

CH CLASSIFIEDS
To place a classified ad contact:
080-41209042

NAME CHANGE

I, **MOHAMMED HABEEBULLA**, S/o. Gulam Mohiuddin, Residing at No.24, Behind Chamrajapet Police Station, Chamrajapet, Mysore Road, Bengaluru -560018, have changed my father's name from **GULAMMUDDIN** to **GULAM MOHIUDDIN**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 06.11.2025 before notary G. DAYANANDA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, **MOHAMMED ABEEBULLA**, Residing at No.24, Behind Chamrajapet Police Station, Chamrajapet, Mysore Road, Bengaluru-560018, have changed my name to **MOHAMMED HABEEBULLA**, Vide Affidavit Dated: 06.11.2025 before notary G. DAYANANDA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, **AMEENA BEGUM NAZEER AHMED**, W/o Saif Khan, resident of No. 10/4, Achutha Raya Mudaliar Road, Frazer Town, Bengaluru - 560005, have changed my name to **AMEENA BEGUM**, Vide Affidavit Dated : 07.11.2025 before notary R BASAVARAJA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE

I, **MAHABOOB SHARIFF**, S/o. Fairoz Shariff, resident of No. 60, Mackan Road P No 3rd Street, Bharathi Nagar, Bengaluru - 560001, have changed my name to **MAHBOOB SHARIFF**, Vide Affidavit Dated : 07.11.2025 before notary R BASAVARAJA, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT

I, ARUL KUMAR S, presently residing at "PUSHPA NILAYA", No. 07, 2nd Cross, Adarshnagar, near Govt. School, Mudalapalya, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru - 560072, do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as follows:
1. I am residing at the above-mentioned address.
2. I declare that my child's name is AVYAAN KAUSTUV, who was born on 06-02-2020 at Surabhi Health Care Research Pvt. Ltd., BBMP, Bangalore, Karnataka.
3. I further declare that in my child's birth certificate (bearing Registration No. 803162/B/B/2020/016872), the child's name has been mentioned incorrectly.
4. I hereby request the concerned authorities to kindly correct the child's name as "AVYAAN KAUSTUV" instead of "KUSH A".
5. This affidavit is made to be produced before the concerned authorities of BBMP for necessary correction.
6. If any litigation arises regarding the above subject, I shall be held responsible. What I have stated above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Place: Bangalore
Date: 01-09-2025 ATTESTED BY ME
NATESH. D, B.A., LLB.
Advocate and Notary Public
Govt. of India
Reg. No: 20498

AFFIDAVIT

I, ANUSHA B K, presently residing at "PUSHPA NILAYA", No. 07, 2nd Cross, Adarshnagar, near Govt. School, Mudalapalya, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru - 560072, do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as follows:
1. I am residing at the above-mentioned address.
2. I declare that my child's name is AVYAAN KAUSTUV, who was born on 06-02-2020 at Surabhi Health Care Research Pvt. Ltd., BBMP, Bangalore, Karnataka.
3. I further declare that in my child's birth certificate (bearing Registration No. 803162/B/B/2020/016872), the child's name has been mentioned incorrectly.
4. I hereby request the concerned authorities to kindly correct the child's name as "AVYAAN KAUSTUV" instead of "KUSH A".
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6. If any litigation arises regarding the above subject, I shall be held responsible. What I have stated above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
Place: Bangalore
Date: 01-09-2025 ATTESTED BY ME
NATESH. D, B.A., LLB.
Advocate and Notary Public
Govt. of India
Reg. No: 20498

PANCHAYATHRAJ ENGINEERING DIVISION
Bangalore South District Panchayath,
Office of the Executive Engineer, Ramanagara.
Short Term Tender Notification No.: 21/EE/PRED/RMG/JE/1132-1141/2025-26 Date : 04-11-2025
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only through E-procurement System)
The Executive Engineer, Panchayathraj Engineering Division, Bangalore South District Ramanagara, invites the Itemwise tender. Contractors registered in **KPWD,** Enrolled in **PRED / PWD** Licence for the Works under Deferent Head of Account.
1) Tender Minimum Amount Rs. 14.40 Lakhs, 2) Tender Maximum Amount Rs. 67.00 Lakhs, 3) Last Date for Submission of Tender Dated : 12-11-2025 by 4.00 p.m., 4) Opening of the Tender Dated : 13-11-2025 at 4.30 p.m., on wards, 5) Opening of the Financial Tender Dated : 17-11-2025 at 4.30 p.m., (KW-3) on wards.
For details & further information visit the **Website : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or Contact this Office in Office hours.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P. R. E. Division, Ramanagara,
Bangalore South District.
DIPR/Ramanagar/428/Manipal/2025-26

MANDYA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, MANDYA-571 401
(Autonomous Medical Institution, Government of Katakana)
(Phone: 08232-231003, Fax: 08232-231001
E-mail: mimsmandya@gmail.com) Website: www.mimsmandya.org
Re-E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement only)
MIMS, Mandya, invited from the eligible Manpoer supply Agencies for providing the services of Human Resources (Cleaning & scavengers Staff) Through out-sourcing to the Teaching Hospital of MIMS & MIMS Institution in Two Covers System as per the KTPP Act 1999 and Rules-2000.
Sl. No : 01. Tender Notification No : No:MIMS/Cleaning & scavenger-Re e-tender/17/2024-25 e-tender Dt:05.11.2025. Tender Particulars : Tender for Providing Cleaning & scavenger. Approximate Cost (Rs. Lakh) : 296.00 Lakhs. EMD (Rs.) : 1.5%
Submission of e-Tender by paying Non Refundable fees Further details can be obtained from website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in More details may be obtained from the MIMS Office during working hours. (Except General Holiday's).
Sd/-Director,
Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences, Mandya
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಸನಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆವಿಸ್.ಎಂಸಿ&ಎ/549/2025–26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಸ್ತುಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ
ದೊಡ್ಡಕೆರೆ ಮೈದಾನ, ಇಂದಿರಾನಗರ, ಮೈಸೂರು–570010.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ (ಕಛೇರಿ): 0821–2523626, ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: exhibitionauthority@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕವಪ್ರಾ/ಮುಕಾನಿ/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06.11.2025
ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಸ್ತುಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಆವರಣವನ್ನು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ "ಇ" ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಮೊತ್ತ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ
1	Providing Man power Service (Security Supervisors and Guards) to Karnataka Exhibition Authority, Mysuru	ರೂ. 81,70,366/–	06.12.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 04.00ಕ್ಕೆ

ಸದರಿ ವಿಷಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳು ಬೇಕಾಗಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಸಿವಿಲ್), ರವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಎಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಕೋರಿದೆ. ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 9900568915, 8892855236, ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: exhibitionauthority@gmail.com
ಸಹಿ/–
ಸಹಾಯಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಮೈಸೂರು/ಶಿರಡಿ ಸಾಯಿ/1195/2025–26 ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಸ್ತುಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಕೋನಪ್ಪನ ಅಗ್ರಹಾರ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು (ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ)
ನಂ.ಪು.ಕಾ.ಕೋ/ತಾಂ.ಶಾ/ಎಂ.ಆರ್.ಎಫ್/ಸಿ.ಆರ್/01/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.11.2025
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಎಸ್.ಬಿ.ಎಂ.–2 ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ (ಎಂ.ಆರ್.ಎಫ್) ನಿಧಿಯಡಿ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿರುವ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ ಷರತ್ತು ಹಾಗೂ ಸೂಚನೆಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. Indent No: DMA/2025–26/BD/WORK_INDENT50542 ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.78.50 ಲಕ್ಷ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕದ ವಿವರಗಳು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:25–11–2025 ಸಂಜೆ 17.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26–11–2025ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 17.15 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಮುಂದೂಡಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟ್‌ಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಯಾವುದೇ ವಾರ್ತ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿಯ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.
ಸಹಿ/– ಸಹಿ/–
ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಕೋನಪ್ಪನ ಅಗ್ರಹಾರ ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಕೋನಪ್ಪನ ಅಗ್ರಹಾರ
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಶಿರಡಿ ಸಾಯಿ/3661/2025–26

Mysore Medical College and Research Institute
Irwin Road, Mysore-570001
(An Autonomous Institute of Government of Karnataka)
Ph: +91-0821-2520512 (Off.), 2520803 (Fax)
Website : www.mmcri.karnataka.gov.in
E-mail : mmcrimysore@yahoo.com
No. Sup/CR/82/2025-26 Date: 21.10.2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION
The Tender has been invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act 1999 for the supply of Cathlab Surgical Items to Super Speciality Hospital of Mysore Medical College and Research Institute, Mysuru for the period of One year or until further orders (which ever is earlier). The Tender documents may be downloaded from E-procurement website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 28.10.2025 and last date for submission of Tenders through E-procurement website is 27.11.2025 upto 5.00 PM. Those tenders which are not submitted with E.M.D. will be rejected. If, the last date for submission of Tender treated as holiday, the next working day will be considered as last date. No Notification in this regard will be announced.
Sd/- Director and Dean, Mysore Medical College and Research Institure, Mysuru
DIPR/DDMYS/1177/KSMCA/643/2025-26

Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND SPORTS
State Youth Centre, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru – 01.
Tel: 080-22215601, 22211246, Fax:080-22215602
Tender No: DYES/SSH/205/2025-26 Dated:07.11.2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through kppp Portal Only)
Subject : Procurement of T-shirts and Shorts to Sports Hostels across Karnataka State.
According to Karnataka Transparency in public procurement act 1999 and Rules 2000 the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports is inviting tender for the procurement of T-shirts and Shorts to Sports Hostels across Karnataka State for the year 2025-26.

Sl. No	Particulars	Tender Amount	EMD amount
1	Procurement of T-shirts and Shorts to Sports Hostels across Karnataka State	77,13,116/-	1,54,262/-

The Tender should be submitted through kppp Portal **(http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Vendors need to register in the kppp Portal to submit their bids online. The tender document can be viewed free of cost from the kppp Portal (1) Last Date and Time for Submission of Tender Documents through kppp Portal : **Date:21.11.2025 Time:17.00hrs** (2) Opening of Technical Bid Date: **24.11.2025 Time:17.30hrs** (3) Opening of Financial Bid :Will be intimated.
Additional information may be obtained during office hours at the above mentioned Address.
Sd/-
Deputy Director (Admin) and
Tender Inviting Authority
Dept. Youth Empowerment & sports
DIPR/CP/3670/SSC/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
BENGALURU URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH
Olo Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, First Floor,
Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road,
Banashankari (Near Banashankari Temple), Bengaluru 560070.
Phone No: 080-26716046 Website: http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
No.EE/PRED/BNG(U)/TND/AE-1/25/2025-26 Dated: 06.11.2025
KPPP Tender Notice (Two Cover System)
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
Tenders are invited through KPPP Portal by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Bangalore Urban, For MWD Grants Works. (RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT16279 & RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT16282) The work details can obtained from the KPPP Web Site The Tender Documents can be obtained and submitted on or before Dated: **14.11.2025** upto **4.00 pm**. Further details can be obtained from web site at **http://www.KPPP.karnataka.gov.in** or contact this office during office working hours.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division,
Bangalore Urban Dist, Bangalore.
DIPR/CP/3655/SSC/2025-26

QUICK READ

Army testing Thar Raptor Brigade's assets in exercise

New Delhi

The aviation assets of the Army's Thar Raptor Brigade, in close coordination with the mechanised formations of Sudarshan Chakra and Konark Corps, are conducting high-tempo combined arms operations to validate seamless joint capabilities under realistic battlefield conditions, an Army official said on Friday. These integrated exercises are part of the Army's Southern Command's ongoing desert drills, Maru-Jwala and Akhand Prahaar, being held under the tri-services framework of 'Exercise Trishul'. The operations focus on refining and validating joint aviation–mechanised Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs), ensuring enhanced coordination and combat readiness.

Gujarat Health minister cracks down on hospitals

Gandhinagar

Gujarat's Health Minister Praful Pansheriya, on Friday, has taken strict action against hospitals found violating the guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana-Maa Amritam (PMJAY-MA) scheme. Minister Pansheriya personally reviewed reports and directed the Health Secretary Dhananjay Dwivedi and department officials to take immediate action against errant hospitals. Following surprise inspections, two hospitals were suspended, while two others were issued show-cause notices for irregularities and negligence under the state's flagship public healthcare scheme. The Health department emphasised that the state government remains committed to ensuring quality, transparent, and compassionate healthcare for poor and middle-class citizens through PMJAY-MA.

Amit Shah claims NDA headed for sweeping victory in Bihar

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said the NDA is set for a landslide in Bihar after the first phase of polling

PATNA

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday asserted that the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) is on course for a sweeping victory in Bihar following the first phase of polling, claiming that the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and Congress have been wiped out.

Addressing a massive rally in Jamui district, Shah declared, The first phase took place yesterday. Lalu Prasad and Rahul Gandhi's parties have been wiped out. They should not even be able to open their account in Jamui. He appealed to voters to ensure that all four seats in the district are secured by the NDA.

Warning against a return of jungle raj, Shah said that some people were attempting to bring back lawlessness in different clothes and with a changed face, urging the electorate to remain steadfast in their support for the NDA.

Recalling the Maoist violence that once plagued Jamui and nearby areas, the Home Minister cited the hijacking of the Dhanbad–Patna Express and the killing of three passengers as examples of the past turmoil. Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, Bihar has become free from Naxalism, he said, noting that polling hours have now been extended till 5 p.m. in areas that once closed voting early due to security threats.

Shah added that Chormara village on the Munger–Jamui border had become Naxal-free after 25 years. He contrasted the law-and-order situation during the Lalu–Rabri era, alleging widespread extortion, kidnappings, and caste-based massacres over 35 in total which he said crippled Bihar's industries and economy.

Azam Khan meets Akhilesh Yadav, sparks political buzz

Senior Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan met Akhilesh Yadav in Lucknow, his first visit since being released from jail

LUCKNOW

In a development seen as politically significant, senior Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Azam Khan met party president Akhilesh Yadav at his residence on Vikramaditya Marg on Friday, marking his first visit to the Uttar Pradesh capital since his release from jail.

The 45-minute meeting, attended by Khan's son as well, was described as cordial and informal, with discussions held over tea and snacks. Following the meeting, Akhilesh Yadav shared photographs on social media, captioning them, I don't know how many memories he brought with him when he came to our home today. This meeting is a heritage of our shared relationship.

The meeting has triggered speculation within political circles, particularly as it comes while the Samajwadi Party is actively campaigning for the ongoing Bihar Assembly elections. Although Azam Khan is listed among the party's star campaigners, he has so far stayed away from public rallies.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Khan said his visit was meant to convey a message of endurance. The only purpose of my visit was to show that there are still people alive on this earth despite the injustices inflicted upon them, he said. Reflecting on his experiences, he added, I came here with the story of what happened to me, my family, and my city. Many of our comrades remain in jail. Whenever we meet, we revisit those painful moments so that future generations remember that such injustice happened.

Khan also hinted that his imprisonment may have changed how the public perceives him. Perhaps what happened to me has changed the image created by the media. Maybe now you are able to understand me, he remarked.

Akhilesh Yadav had earlier visited Khan at his Rampur residence on October 8, shortly after his release. Several senior SP leaders also called on Khan in Lucknow, underscoring the renewed political warmth between the veteran leader and the party's top brass.

Vande Mataram is the identity of India: Gujarat BJP chief

GANDHINAGAR

Marking 150 years of India's National Song Vande Mataram, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Gujarat unit organised celebrations across the state on Friday, echoing patriotic fervour from schools to government offices. Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, mass singing events were held nationwide to commemorate the song that once ignited India's freedom movement and continues to unite the nation.

At Sarai-Umbargaon, BJP Gujarat President Jagdish Vishwakarma led the celebration and described Vande Mataram as the very soul and identity of India.

Paying tribute to the song's creator, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, he said, The words Vande Mataram have the power to awaken the spirit of patriotism and fill every Indian with energy, devotion, and resolve. It is not just a song but a mantra of revolution. Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel participated in the event held at the Gujarat Legislative Assembly, joining thousands in singing the full version of Vande Mataram. Similar events took place across districts, where students, teachers, and officials came together to honour the timeless composition. Tracing its history, Vishwakarma said Vande Mataram was first sung in 1896 by Rabindranath Tagore at the Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress and later received national status in 1950 by Dr Rajendra Prasad. During the freedom struggle, it became a rallying cry against British rule. So powerful was its impact that the British government banned its use, he noted.

He also criticised the Congress party for showing intolerance toward Vande Mataram, recalling instances when Congress-led governments and leaders opposed its recitation. 140 crore Indians will never forgive those who tried to restrict Vande Mataram. The Congress has wronged Bharat Mata, he said.

Cancer Care: Ayush enhances public health

NEW DELHI

Integrative models combining modern oncology with Ayush systems can significantly improve quality of life, particularly for the vulnerable sections of society, Union Minister Prataprao Jadhav said on Friday. He emphasised that safeguarding public health requires a proactive and people-centric approach to cancer awareness and prevention. Jadhav noted that the Ministry's expanding initiatives including integrative cancer-care centres, collaborative research efforts and community-focused programmes aim to ensure that affordable, holistic and supportive care reaches every citizen.

AP announces Rs 2.5 cr cash, govt job for Shree Charani

AMARAVATI

The Andhra Pradesh government on Friday announced a cash reward of Rs 2.5 crore, a government job and a house site for Telugu cricketer N. Shree Charani, a member of the 2025 women's cricket world cup-winning team. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu announced the reward after the young cricketer called on him soon after she arrived from Delhi.

The Chief Minister also announced that she will be provided a job as a Group 1 officer in the state government. The 21-year-old will also get a 1,000 square yard plot in Kadapa for building a house. Shree Charani shared the joy of winning the World Cup with CM Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh. She thanked them for supporting her.

The Chief Minister stated that by winning the World Cup, she has shown the power of Indian women and has become a role model for women athletes. He wished the Indian team more success in the future.

Shree Charani presented a T-shirt signed by women cricketers to the Chief Minister.

Talking to the media, the spinner said she was happy to get love and affection from all. Shree Charani said she got all the encouragement from her family. Shree Charani said it was her maternal uncle who introduced her to cricket. She underwent the training at the Andhra Cricket Association. Terming the World Cup victory as the first step, the young cricketer exuded confidence in bringing more laurels for the nation.

Earlier, the Human Resources Development and Information Technology Minister, Nara Lokesh, received Shree Charani and former captain Mithali Raj on their arrival at the CM's residence. Selfie with a spinner who made India a winner, Chief Minister Naidu wrote on 'X' with a picture taken with Shree Charani. Lokesh said the Chief Minister and he congratulated Shree Charani on India's glorious Women's World Cup victory.

Delhi airport flight operations disrupted due to ATC glitch

NEW DELHI

Flight operations at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) experienced major disruptions on Friday due to a technical fault in the Air Traffic Control (ATC) system, impacting over 400 flights from various airlines, including Indigo, Air India, and others. The Automatic Message Switching System (AMSS) system issue impacting ATC operations is still being resolved, and delays may continue across airlines at Delhi and a few airports in the northern region until the system is fully restored, Indigo Airlines said on X.

Similarly, Air India Express spokesperson said, Air India Express operates about 60 direct flights daily to 25 domestic destinations from Delhi Terminal 1 and four international flights from Terminal 3. Our teams are actively assisting guests at the airport and working closely with the authorities to minimise delays.

Earlier, Delhi Airport took to X to issue a passenger advisory, stating: Due to a technical issue with the Air Traffic Control (ATC) system, flight operations at IGIA are experiencing delays. Their team is actively working with all stakeholders, including DIAL, to resolve it at the earliest. Passengers are advised to stay in touch with their respective airlines for the latest flight updates. We sincerely regret the inconvenience caused. Passengers reported delays, with extended waiting times both at the airport and onboard aircraft.

A passenger onboard one of the delayed flights informed that the crew requested patience from travellers while the technical issue was being resolved. Earlier in the week, the airport experienced minor disruptions due to third-party connectivity issues affecting check-in systems, which caused delays for a few airlines. That issue was reportedly resolved on Wednesday, allowing normal operations to resume.

Heroin worth Rs 5.85 crore seized in Assam; two arrested

SILCHAR

Assam Rifles and the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) jointly seized heroin worth Rs 5.85 crore in Assam's Cachar district, officials said on Friday. A defence spokesman said that in a major success against drug trafficking, Assam Rifles, in a joint operation with the DRI, recovered heroin valued at approximately Rs 5.85 crore in Cachar district of southern Assam.

Acting on specific intelligence inputs regarding the movement of illicit drugs in the region, an Assam Rifles team swiftly launched the operation. He said that during the operation, a vehicle was intercepted near Sonabarighat, leading to the recovery of the narcotics consignment.

Two drug peddlers, residents of Manipur's Chandel district, were also apprehended. The hilly district shares an unfenced border with Myanmar. The vehicle used for transporting the drugs has been seized, along with two mobile phones recovered from the suspects.

Assam Rifles continues to play a pivotal role in curbing the menace of narcotics in the Northeast, an official statement said.

It added that through sustained and coordinated operations with other enforcement agencies, the paramilitary force remains committed to dismantling drug trafficking networks and safeguarding the youth from the perils of drug abuse.

Notably, Myanmar shares a 1,643-km-long unfenced border with four Northeastern states -- Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland -- which serves as a key transit point for drugs, particularly heroin and methamphetamine tablets. At least six of the 10 districts of Mizoram -- Champhai, Siaha, Lawngtlai, Hnahthial, Saitual and Serchhip -- share a 510-km border with Myanmar, while five of the 16 Manipur districts -- Churachandpur, Tengnoupal, Chandel, Kamjong and Ukhrul -- share a 398-km unfenced international border with the neighbouring country.

BIHAR VOTER RECORD

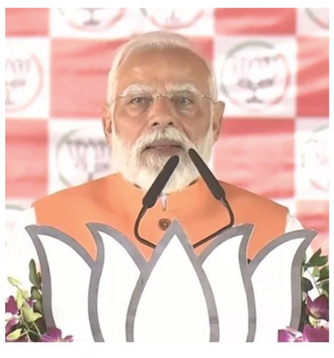
PM hails Bihar voter turnout, credits 'double-engine'

AURANGABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauded the people of Bihar for their unprecedented voter turnout in the first phase of polling on November 6, describing it as a sign of their faith in the double-engine government led by the NDA at the Centre and in the state.

People of Bihar have broken all records; this is the highest polling percentage since Independence. Nearly 65 per cent voting took place in the first phase, showing the trust of youth, farmers, and women in the BJP-led NDA, PM Modi said while addressing a rally in Aurangabad.

Recalling the violent past of the region, the Prime Minister said, Aurangabad suffered for years under the Red terror during the RJD-Congress regime. People feared even stepping out of their homes. But under Nitish Kumar's 'Sushashan,' Naxal violence



was eliminated, restoring peace and progress. He credited both state and central governments for their efforts to eradicate Maoist influence. After the BJP came to power at the Centre, we launched a decisive crackdown on Red terror, bringing security and stability to people's lives, he said. Highlighting his government's track record of fulfilling promises, PM Modi cited key achievements such as the construction of the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, abrogation of Article 370, and implementation of the One Rank, One Pension scheme for armed forces personnel.

It was from the soil of Bihar that I vowed to avenge the Pahalgam terror attacks. And our forces did just that they punished the perpetrators, he declared, drawing loud cheers from the crowd. The rally marked a strong pitch by the Prime Minister to consolidate NDA's voter base as Bihar heads into the remaining phases of polling.

QUICK READ

Delhi HC delivers split verdict on Engineer Rashid's plea

New Delhi

The Delhi High Court on Friday delivered a split verdict on the plea filed by jailed Lok Sabha member from Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla constituency, Engineer Abdul Rashid Sheikh, who sought modification of the conditions related to payment of travel expenses during his custody parole to attend the Parliament session. A two-judge Bench of Justices Vivek Chaudhary and Anup Jairam Bhambhani differed in their opinions. While Justice Chaudhary rejected Engineer Rashid's plea, Justice Bhambhani allowed it. The matter will now be placed before Chief Justice D.K. Upadhyaya, the master of the roster, for appropriate orders.

Srinagar court convicts SI for forging date of birth

Srinagar

A court in Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar city on Friday convicted a police Sub-Inspector (SI) for forging his date of birth to secure unlawful service benefits. The Court of City Judge Srinagar has convicted a Sub-Inspector of the Jammu and Kashmir Police and sentenced him to three years of simple imprisonment along with a fine of Rs 5,000 for forging his date of birth to secure unlawful service benefits, including extension and promotions. Officials of the Jammu and Kashmir Crime Branch said that the Crime Branch Kashmir had registered a case in 2023 against Sub-Inspector Jagdesh Singh, son of Kartar Singh, resident of Areena Budgam.

Nirmala Sitharaman visits Tata's semiconductor plant

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman reviewed progress at Tata Electronics' semiconductor facility in Jagiroad, Assam, terming it a transformative step toward India's self-reliance in chip manufacturing

GUWAHATI

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday visited Tata Electronics Limited's (TEL) upcoming semiconductor manufacturing facility at Jagiroad in Assam's Morigaon district — a landmark project under India's ambitious semiconductor mission.

The Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facility, being developed by Tata Electronics, is poised to become one of India's leading hubs for advanced chip packaging and testing. Once fully operational, the plant will play a crucial role in strengthening the country's semiconductor ecosystem by reducing import dependence and positioning India as a global player in high-value technology manufacturing.

During her visit, Sitharaman conducted a detailed review of the project's progress and interacted with engineers and officials on-site. She expressed satisfaction with the rapid pace of development and lauded the project's contribution to balanced regional growth.

This project represents a transformative step towards realizing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a self-reliant India in semiconductor manufacturing, Sitharaman said, underscoring the government's push for domestic production in critical technology sectors.

The Finance Minister further noted that the project will create significant employment opportunities for the youth of Assam and neighbouring states, while catalysing industrial development in the Northeast. Such initiatives highlight the government's commitment to equitable growth across all regions, she added.

The Morigaon facility is a key component of the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), a strategic initiative aimed at fostering a robust and sustainable semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem in the country.

BJP supports withdrawal of varsity notification

CHANDIGARH

Punjab BJP leaders hailed the Union government's withdrawal of a notification dissolving Panjab University's Senate and Syndicate, calling it a decision that respects public sentiment and exposes the AAP government's misinformation.

The Punjab unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Friday lauded the Union government's decision to withdraw its earlier notification dissolving the Senate and Syndicate of Panjab University, describing the move as respectful of public sentiment and sensitive to the aspirations of Punjab.

Addressing a press conference in Chandigarh, BJP state Vice President Subhash Sharma credited Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan for taking an extremely sensitive decision in response to public feedback. The Centre's decision fully respects the sentiments of the people of Punjab, Sharma said, accusing the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government of trying to mislead citizens over the issue.

He clarified that the notification issued on October 28 regarding reforms in the university's governing bodies was officially withdrawn on November 4 and placed in abeyance indefinitely. This notification will neither be implemented now nor in the future, Sharma asserted.

Highlighting financial support extended by the Union government, Sharma pointed out that since 2014, the Centre has contributed ₹3,229 crore to Panjab University, while the Punjab government's share was only ₹538 crore. The BJP has always maintained that the interests of Panjab University and Punjab's rights will never be compromised, he said.

Sharma also criticised the Punjab government's lack of engagement with university affairs, noting that neither the Chief Minister nor the state Education Minister — both ex officio Senate members — have attended any meetings. Even the MLAs nominated by the Assembly, he added, have been absent.

He reminded that the reform process began under former Vice-Chancellor Prof. Arun Grover during the Congress government's tenure and included Punjab government representatives, questioning why no objections were raised then.

The BJP leaders maintained that the Centre's move to withdraw the notification reflects its commitment to protecting Punjab's educational heritage and ensuring transparency in institutional governance.

Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath marked 150 years of 'Vande Mataram', praising frontline workers as modern freedom fighters

Yogi compares COVID-19 frontline workers to freedom fighters

LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday compared government employees who served during the Covid-19 pandemic to freedom fighters, saying they were all guided by the same patriotic spirit that inspired India's struggle for independence through the national song 'Vande Mataram'.

Speaking at a special programme marking the 150th anniversary of 'Vande Mataram', the Chief Minister said the collective recitation of the song symbolises India's unity, devotion and commitment to the idea of nation first. The spirit of selfless service and dedication shown by government employees during Covid was no less than what we saw in freedom fighters who sang the song a century ago, he said.

CM Yogi emphasised that during the pandemic, every level of the government, from senior officials to low-salaried workers, worked tirelessly, driven by the resolve to protect citizens and overcome the crisis. It was all because of leadership that was sensitive and responsive towards Bharat, Bhartiyata and its citizens, he added.

BANDE MATARAM
Cry of the Bravehearts
My only prayer to God is may I be reborn of the same Mother and may I re-die in the same sacred cause till the cause is successful, and she stands free for the good of humanity and to the glory of God.
BANDE MATARAM!!!
Madan Lal Dhingra, before he stepped on the gallows (1909)

Describing Vande Mataram as an eternal expression of India's devotion and strength, he said the song had served as an immortal mantra of India's independence movement, inspiring revolutionaries and citizens alike to awaken national consciousness.

In those days, despite the torture and harassment inflicted by foreign rulers, every Indian joined processions from village to village, singing Vande Mataram to awaken the nation's spirit, Yogi said.

Lauding Prime Minister Narendra Modi for leading the country in commemorating the 150th anniversary, he said the day holds immense significance for every Indian. Vande Mataram unites the country beyond caste, creed and religion, reminding us that our foremost duty is to serve the nation, the Chief Minister remarked. He concluded by urging people to preserve and pass on the patriotic essence of Vande Mataram to future generations as a timeless source of unity and inspiration.

Two World Cup cricketers get warm welcome in Punjab

CHANDIGARH

The Punjab government on Friday gave a warm welcome at Shaheed Bhagat Singh International Airport in Mohali, near here, to cricketers Harleen Deol and Amanjot Kaur, two players from the state who were part of the Indian women's team that created history by winning the country's first-ever World Cup title in women's cricket. On behalf of the government, Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema and Member of Parliament Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer reached the airport specially to welcome the champions. They were joined by MLA Amandeep Kaur Arora, District Planning Board Chairperson Prabhjot Kaur, Jaswant Kaur and Councillor Sarabjit Singh Samana.

Calcutta HC directs Centre to file affidavit on release of MGNREGA funds

KOLKATA

A Division Bench of the Calcutta High Court on Friday directed the Centre to file an affidavit detailing how the latter had planned to release the pending funds to the West Bengal government for the 100-day job scheme under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The Division Bench of Calcutta High Court's Acting Chief Justice Sujoy Paul and Justice Smita Das De directed the Union government to file the affidavit in the matter within the next four weeks. As per the direction of the Division Bench, the petitioners in the case accusing the Union Government of deliberately holding back funds under the MGNREGA scheme for West Bengal, will have to make their submissions on the affidavit filed by the Centre two weeks after the date of filing of the affidavit. Thereafter, the next hearing in the matter would be conducted. To recall, the Union Government had stopped making payments under the MGNREGA scheme for the last three years, following which a political slugfest between the Trinamool Congress and the BJP broke out. The Union government said that the payment of funds was stopped amid massive corruption in the implementation of the scheme. In June this year, the Calcutta High Court directed the Union government to make payments for the pending MGNREGA funds for West Bengal, acting on a petition filed by Paschim Banga Khet Mojur Samiti, an association of agriculture workers in the state.

The Calcutta High Court then observed that if necessary, the Union Government could set conditions for payment of MGNREGA funds for West Bengal, but could not stop payment on this count.

Athawale hails ₹ 10,000 scheme, confident of victory in Bihar

PATNA

Union Minister Ramdas Athawale praised the high voter turnout in Bihar's first-phase Assembly elections, crediting the Rs 10,000 assistance to women as a positive and impactful move. He said women showed appreciation by voting in large numbers. Athawale expressed confidence that the NDA, led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, would win decisively, citing Bihar's inclusive development under Nitish's leadership. He added that his party fully supports the NDA, highlighting Modi's work for Bihar and predicting a strong majority for the alliance.

'Chattopadhyay strengthened bond between Maa Bharti and her sons'

JAMMU

Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor (L-G) Manoj Sinha said on Friday that Rishi Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay strengthened the bond between Maa Bharti and her sons, and inspired the people to secure the country's Independence. The Lt Governor attended the 150th year celebration of Vande Mataram, organised by the Department of Culture. L-G Sinha paid tributes to Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and visited the exhibition on the National Song 'Vande Mataram'.

He said Rishi Bankim Chandra had strengthened the bond between Maa Bharti and her sons and inspired people to secure the Independence.

Our commitment and dedication to the motherland will take our nation to its destiny of a Viksit Bharat. The young generation must remember that they are inheritors of this great civilization, and their contribution to the progress and prosperity of society will be a fitting tribute to Maa Bharti, the Lt Governor said. The year 2025 marks 150 years of Vande Mataram. Our national song Vande Mataram, by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, was written during the auspicious occasion of Akshaya Navami, which fell on November 7, 1875. Vande Mataram first appeared in the literary journal Bangadarshan as part of his novel Anandamath, Sinha said. e song, invoking the Motherland as the embodiment of strength, prosperity, and divinity, gave poetic expression to India's awakening spirit of unity and self-respect. It soon became an enduring symbol of devotion to the nation, he added.

The celebrations witnessed the mass singing of the full version of Vande Mataram with participation from citizens across all segments of society.

FIRST WOMAN DGP

Tadasha Mishra becomes Jharkhand's first woman DGP

RANCHI

Marking a historic milestone for Jharkhand, 1994-batch IPS officer Tadasha Mishra on Friday assumed charge as the acting Director General of Police (DGP), becoming the first woman to head the state police force since its formation 25 years ago.

Mishra formally took charge at the police headquarters in Ranchi and later paid a courtesy visit to Chief Minister Hemant Soren at his residence in Kanke. Before her elevation, she served as Special Secretary in the Home, Prisons and Disaster Management Department.

A native of Odisha, Mishra has held several key roles throughout her distinguished career, including Additional Director General (ADG), Inspector General (IG), and Superintendent of Police (SP) in Giridih and Bokaro, as well as City SP of Ranchi.

Speaking to the media after assuming office, Mishra said her priorities would focus on improving the quality of investigations, ensuring accountability, and promoting citizen-friendly policing.

Every effort will be made to implement the state government's vision for policing, she stated.

Effective policing depends on the quality of investigation. Special focus will be on strengthening investigations and ensuring an efficient, prompt and robust prosecution system so that criminals are punished without delay, she added.

She also urged officers, especially those at the grassroots level, to maintain a respectful and approachable image. Our interaction with citizens defines public trust. The police must always treat people with dignity, she said.

Mishra's appointment follows the voluntary retirement of former DGP Anurag Gupta, a 1990-batch IPS officer, on November 5.

Gupta, who had served as acting DGP since July 2024, was briefly removed by the Election Commission during the Assembly polls but reinstated later. His tenure was marred by procedural disputes after the Centre and UPSC objected to his appointment under new state rules framed in February 2025.

QUICK READ

Human rights bodies condemned 'illegal detention'

Quetta

Several human rights organisations condemned the illegal detention of three youths by Pakistani forces in Balochistan, as the cycle of persecution continues amid an escalating wave of enforced disappearances across the province. Paank, the Baloch National Movement's Human Rights Department, mentioned that Salman Baloch, the Deputy organiser of the National Democratic Party (NDP), along with two others, Deleep Das and Sahir Baloch, were forcibly disappeared during an illegal raid conducted at Bolan Plaza on Brewery Road in the provincial capital Quetta. The rights body alleged that Pakistani security forces searched the entire room without a warrant and took away all three roommates.

3 Dead, 2 Feared Dead After Boiler Tower Collapse

A 44-year-old man died despite rescue efforts after a 60-metre boiler tower collapsed

ULSAN

Tragedy struck a thermal power plant in the southeaster South Korean city of Ulsan on Friday when a boiler tower collapsed, killing three workers and leaving two others presumed dead, firefighting officials confirmed. Two more workers remain unaccounted for as search and rescue efforts continue. The accident occurred at a power plant operated by the Ulsan branch of Korea East-West Power Co., a state-run utility company. Two workers were found dead under the rubble, raising the death toll to three, after one worker was earlier pronounced dead while trapped.

Rescue teams are continuing efforts to locate the remaining workers, though authorities fear the death toll may rise. Initially, nine workers were reported trapped; two were rescued early on. One of the deceased was identified as a 44-year-old man who went into cardiac arrest during the rescue attempt. A rescue worker injected him with painkillers and took measures to keep him warm, but he eventually passed away, said Kim Jeongsik, an official at the Ulsan Nambu Fire Station. Firefighters had to navigate through nearly 30 metres of twisted steel and debris to reach the victims.

The 60-metre-tall boiler tower, built in 1981, was undergoing demolition after being decommissioned in 2021. Officials said the collapse occurred while subcontracted workers were cutting steel supports as part of the dismantling process.

Industry experts believe uneven structural loads during the work could have triggered the collapse. Investigators are now examining whether adequate safety measures, such as wire supports, were in place at the time. South Korea's Ministry of Labour announced it will conduct searches and seizures to determine the exact cause of the collapse and whether safety protocols were breached during the demolition.

Pak's Airstrikes on Afghanistan Expose Internal Crisis

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's recent airstrikes in Afghanistan backfired, killing civilians and revealing the nation's growing political, military, and economic fragility.

In early October, Pakistan launched a series of airstrikes inside Afghanistan, targeting Kabul, Kandahar, and Paktika, claiming the operations were aimed at eliminating Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) militants. However, the strikes instead resulted in the deaths of civilians, including women, children, and young cricketers. In a swift and unprecedented retaliation, Kabul's forces killed 58 Pakistani soldiers, marking a dramatic escalation between the two neighbours.

For the first time, Afghanistan was bombed not by a global superpower, but by its immediate neighbour — a country that once hosted millions of Afghan refugees. According to a report by The Diplomat, the strikes were intended to project strength but ended up exposing Pakistan's growing weakness. The report noted that Rawalpindi's generals are once again resorting to an old strategy: using external aggression to distract from internal collapse.

For decades, Pakistan's leadership has blamed instability on external forces — India, Afghanistan, or the West — while fostering militant groups that have now turned against it. The TTP, once considered a strategic asset, has turned into an existential menace, The Diplomat observed.

The air campaign, the report added, reflected desperation rather than confidence. With Pakistan's economy in freefall, inflation crushing ordinary citizens, and civilian authority eroded, the military appears to be exporting conflict to divert attention from domestic turmoil.

Meanwhile, Afghanistan's Taliban-led government, once seen as Islamabad's ally, is asserting its independence. Afghanistan will not fight someone else's war, Afghan Defence Minister Mullah Yaqoob declared following the attacks.

Efforts to de-escalate tensions — including the ongoing third round of negotiations in Istanbul mediated by Turkiye and Qatar — remain fragile, as Pakistan continues to rely on ultimatums rather than diplomacy.

Human Rights Watch accuses China of pressuring filmmakers

NEW YORK

Human Rights Watch (HRW), a US-based advocacy group, has accused Chinese authorities of harassing several dozen Chinese film directors and producers, along with their families in China, to compel them to withdraw their films from the inaugural IndieChina Film Festival in New York City. The rights body stated that, the festival's organiser, Zhu Riku, announced that the film festival, scheduled for November 8-15, had been suspended. The Chinese government reached around the globe to shut down a film festival in New York City. This latest act of transnational repression demonstrates the Chinese government's aim to control what the world sees and learns about China, said Yalkun Uluyol, China researcher at HRW. According to the rights body, on November 1, the organisers issued an announcement on social media saying they had received messages from some film directors and producers and their families about Chinese government harassment. By November 4, more than two-thirds of participating films had cancelled their screenings.

The HRW mentioned that independent film festivals in China have faced intensifying crackdowns over the past decade. It added that the Chinese government's tightening of ideological controls has resulted in the prosecution and imprisonment of several filmmakers and has caused many others to go into exile.

In 2014, the rights body said, a court sentenced Shen Yongping, a prominent Chinese filmmaker whose documentary about the constitution was critical of the government, to one year in prison for alleged illegal business activity. Additionally, the HRW stated that in January 2025, a court sentenced Chinese documentary filmmaker Chen Pinlin, known as Plato, to three-and-a-half years in prison for allegedly picking quarrels and provoking trouble after he made a documentary about the white paper protests during Covid-19 lockdowns in China.

S Korea's FM Cho to attend G7 foreign ministerial meet in Canada

SEOUL

South Korea's Foreign Minister Cho Hyun will travel to Canada next week to attend the expanded foreign ministerial meeting of the Group of Seven (G7) major countries, his office said on Friday. Cho will make a four-day trip starting on Tuesday at the invitation of Canada, the host for the G7 meetings this year, and plans to deliver remarks in two expanded sessions of top diplomats, the ministry said in a release. He plans to address maritime security and prosperity, energy security and critical minerals, areas closely related to South Korea's national interests. Cho also plans to hold a series of bilateral meetings with the counterparts of key nations on the sidelines of the gathering, the ministry added.

Cho's upcoming trip comes as South Korea seeks to expand its role within the G7 forum and deepen cooperation with member countries the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and JapanPresident Lee Jae Myung attended the expanded leaders' session of the G7 summit in Alberta in June, days after he took office.

During his visit, Lee joined an expanded G7 session in Alberta and held a series of bilateral talks with leaders from G7 member states and other invited participants, as he sought to demonstrate that South Korea's summit diplomacy is back on track following a period of political turmoil. Lee was elected in the June 3 presidential vote that was set up following the April ouster of former President Yoon Suk Yeol over his botched martial law bid in December.

During the G7 gathering, Lee held his first in-person meeting with then-Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba, during which they agreed to bolster three-way cooperation with the United States to respond to geopolitical crises, including those involving North Korea.

US Senate blocks resolution that would have kept Trump from striking Venezuela

WASHINGTON

U.S. Senate Republicans have blocked a resolution that would have prohibited President Donald Trump from launching military attacks on Venezuela without prior congressional authorization, even as administration officials assured lawmakers that Washington is not currently planning strikes on Venezuelan territory.

The Senate voted 51-49 — almost entirely along party lines — against bringing the war powers resolution forward for debate. Only two Republican senators broke ranks and voted with Democrats. The vote was viewed as a demonstration of the Republican Party's backing of Trump's regional military posture in the southern Caribbean, where U.S. forces have been conducting lethal operations for two months.

Since early September, the administration says U.S. forces have carried out at least 16 strikes on boats off Venezuela in the Pacific and southern Caribbean, killing more than 65 people. The sustained campaign has triggered growing fears that Trump could escalate further and order direct action against targets on Venezuelan soil.

The bipartisan resolution was co-sponsored by Democrats Tim Kaine and Adam Schiff, and Republican Rand Paul.

Four Arrested After Protesters Disrupt Israeli Philharmonic Concert

PARIS

French authorities have arrested four people after protesters disrupted a performance by the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra at La Philharmonie de Paris, marking the latest in a string of anti-Israel incidents linked to the ongoing Gaza conflict.

According to officials, the protest erupted inside the prestigious concert hall in northern Paris, where demonstrators lit flares and chanted pro-Palestinian slogans during the performance. Videos circulating on social media showed chaos in the audience as security personnel and attendees attempted to remove the protesters.

Despite several interruptions, the concert continued after police and security teams evacuated the demonstrators from the hall.

I strongly condemn the actions committed last night during a concert at the Philharmonie de Paris. Nothing can justify them, Interior Minister Laurent Nunez said in a post on X. He praised the Paris police for their swift intervention, noting that four individuals were taken into custody.

The Paris prosecutor's office confirmed that three women and one man were detained on charges including violence, destruction, and organising an unauthorised protest.

The disturbance comes amid heightened tensions across Europe, where public demonstrations related to the Israel-Gaza conflict have intensified in recent weeks. French authorities have urged calm and reinforced security measures around cultural and diplomatic institutions associated with both communities to prevent further escalations.

Officials reiterated that while freedom of expression is protected, acts disrupting public events and endangering safety will be met with strict legal consequences.

SU DO KU

Brain-Bender: Can You Solve It?

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	1	9	6	8		4	3	
6		3	5	4		2		9

7	6	1	9	3	4	8	5	2
5	9	4	8	2	1	3	6	7
3	8	2	6	7	5	9	1	4
2	1	8	3	5	6	7	4	9
9	3	6	1	4	7	2	8	5
4	5	7	2	8	9	6	3	1
1	2	9	5	6	8	4	7	3
8	4	5	7	9	3	1	2	6
6	7	3	4	1	2	5	9	8

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

Fill a 9×9 grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3×3 section contain all of the digits between 1 and 9.

NO CONVICTIONS DESPITE SURGE

No Convictions in 373 Violence Against Women Cases in Islamabad, Says SSDO Report

ISLAMABAD

A recent factsheet released by the Sustainable Social Development Organisation (SSDO) has revealed that Islamabad registered 373 cases of violence against women during the first half of 2025 — but not a single conviction has been recorded. The findings, covering the period from January to June, have raised serious concerns about the effectiveness of Pakistan's justice system in protecting women.

According to local media reports citing the SSDO data obtained through the Right to Information (RTI) from the Police Department, the majority of the reported cases — 309 — were related to rape and kidnapping, accounting for nearly 83 per cent of total incidents. Despite the high number, zero convictions were recorded, with many cases reportedly withdrawn before conclusion.

Additionally, 42 cases of physical abuse, 17 of harassment, three of cybercrime, and two cases of honour killing were reported. The SSDO said the data highlights severe systemic failures in evidence collection, prosecution, and victim protection.

The absence of a single conviction despite hundreds of reported cases exposes the inefficiency of law enforcement and judicial institutions, the report stated. SSDO Executive Director Syed Kausar Abbas expressed deep concern over the findings, urging coordinated efforts from the police, prosecution, and judiciary to ensure accountability. We urge authorities to take urgent action to restore public trust in the justice system, he said.

The findings come amid broader debates over Pakistan's legal protections for women. Earlier this year, Pakistan's Senate amended Section 354-A of the Pakistan Penal Code under the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2025, removing the death penalty for severe acts of public violence against women. Under the revised law, offenders now face life imprisonment or a prison term of up to 25 years, a move that some legal experts argue weakens deterrence.

BNP alleges conspiracy to derail Feb 2026 poll amid rising political crisis

Dhaka

In escalating political tensions ahead of next year's general election, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has alleged that certain quarters are conspiring to derail the February 2026 polls, according to local media reports. The latest remarks came after the radical Islamist party Jamaat-e-Islami warned of tough action if the Muhammad Yunus-led interim government fails to address its five-point demand by November 11. Attempts are being made to create an unstable environment in the country. They are trying to foil the election. They are trying to postpone the election. The people will not accept this. We have an opportunity to return to the democratic system.

QUICK READ

Jio's 5G tech could boost global telecom growth

New Delhi

Jio's affordable 5G solutions are poised to help the company expand in the $121 billion global telecom technology market, says a new Jefferies report. The brokerage expects 18–21% CAGR in revenue and EBITDA for Jio over FY26–28, raising its EV to $180 billion. Jio has invested heavily in technology, with 13x increase in patent filings and 7x rise in 3GPP contributions for 5G/6G. Tested on 200 million+ subscribers, its cost-effective 5G stack, combined with AI-based optimisations and Open Digital Architecture, positions Jio to capture enterprise growth and unlock new market opportunities globally.

MAS Financial Q2 profit rises strongly to ₹ 91 crore

Mumbai

MAS Financial Services reported an 18% rise in consolidated profit after tax (PAT), reaching Rs 91.43 crore in Q2 of FY26, up from Rs 77.62 crore in the same quarter last year. The company's total income grew to Rs 482.33 crore, compared to Rs 385.19 crore in Q2 FY25, reflecting robust business growth. MAS Financial attributed the increase to stronger lending operations and efficient financial management. The company continues to focus on expanding its financial services portfolio while maintaining prudent risk management, positioning itself for steady performance in the coming quarters.

RBI GUV SAYS BANKS MUST TAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS

Sanjay Malhotra highlighted India's robust banking fundamentals credit expansion, deposit growth, asset quality, profitability and RBI role

MUMBAI

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra on Friday said that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will not interfere in decisions meant for bank boards, stressing that regulators should not replace boardroom judgment. Speaking at the State Bank of India's Banking and Economics Conclave in Mumbai, Malhotra said Indian banks are now more mature and stable than a decade ago.

"The regulator's role is not to micromanage but to ensure discipline and sustainability," he said, noting that each decision should be made by banks on its own merit. He compared the regulator's role to that of a gardener, who nurtures growth while trimming unwanted branches to shape a healthy financial ecosystem.

Malhotra pointed to India's strong banking fundamentals, including credit expansion, deposit growth, improved asset quality, and higher profitability. "The RBI's role is to enable banks to grow responsibly," he added.

He also highlighted the 22 recent RBI measures, which include allowing banks to fund acquisitions, raising limits on loans against shares, and draft norms for the Expected Credit Loss (ECL) framework. These reforms, he said, will make rule-making more data-driven and transparent.

Malhotra credited regulatory and structural reforms for helping State Bank of India (SBI) recover from losses in 2018 to becoming a $100 billion company today.

He also praised the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) introduced in 2016, saying it has transformed India's credit culture and strengthened debt resolution frameworks through both court and out-of-court mechanisms.

India, New Zealand aim for early trade agreement

NEW DELHI

Goyal met New Zealand's Trade Minister Todd McClay in the fourth FTA negotiation round, discussing goods, services, investments, and technical cooperation to create a balanced, forward-looking pact

India and New Zealand are working toward the early conclusion of a comprehensive and balanced free trade agreement (FTA), Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said after concluding his official visit to New Zealand on Friday.

Goyal met New Zealand's Trade Minister Todd McClay during the fourth round of FTA negotiations, which focused on market access for goods, services, investments, and technical cooperation. The minister described the discussions as constructive and forward-looking, aiming to create a pact that balances both nations' economic interests and sensitivities.

"Concluded my fruitful visit to New Zealand with a meeting with my friend and counterpart, Todd McClay," Goyal wrote on X (formerly Twitter).

He emphasized that both sides are committed to deepening their strategic and economic convergence through stronger trade and investment links.

During his visit, Goyal engaged with business leaders from both countries and attended multiple events celebrating the cultural and people-to-people ties between India and New Zealand.

He also addressed the India–New Zealand CEOs Roundtable in Rotorua, McClay's hometown, encouraging New Zealand companies to partner more closely with Indian industries in sectors like technology, agriculture, education, clean energy, and sustainability.

Goyal expressed gratitude to McClay for hosting him, saying both countries are "gearing up to take India–New Zealand ties to the next level." The minister noted that the FTA aims to open new opportunities for businesses and consumers, strengthening economic cooperation between the two Indo-Pacific partners.

Hindalco Q2 profit jumps 21% on India growth

NEW DELHI

Hindalco Industries Ltd, the metals arm of the Aditya Birla Group, reported a 21.2% rise in Q2 profit, reaching Rs 4,741 crore for September 2025, driven by strong performance in its India business.

The company credited disciplined cost management and operational efficiencies across segments for the growth. Revenue from operations increased 13% to Rs 66,058 crore, up from Rs 58,203 crore a year ago. In comparison, profit after tax in the same period last year was Rs 3,909 crore. Hindalco's robust domestic performance underpinned the overall improvement in earnings for the quarter.

India's GDP grew 7.8% in Q1 FY26, led by agriculture, trade, hospitality, finance, and real estate

India's growth likely to cross 6.8% mark in current financial year

NEW DELHI

Chief Economic Advisor V. Anantha Nageswaran on Friday expressed confidence that India's economy will grow beyond 6.8 percent in the current financial year, supported by stronger consumption following GST rate cuts and income tax relief.

Speaking at CNBC-TV18's Global Leadership Summit 2025, Nageswaran said the earlier growth projection of 6.3 to 6.8 percent in the Economic Survey could now move higher. "I am comfortable saying it will be north of 6.8 percent. Whether it reaches 7 percent depends on second-quarter results," he noted.

India registered a 7.8 percent GDP growth in the first quarter of FY26, driven by a strong farm sector and robust performance in trade, hospitality, finance, and real estate. The country continues to be the world's fastest-growing major economy, with China reporting 5.2 percent growth in the same period.

The highest growth in recent quarters was 8.4 percent recorded between January and March 2024.

Nageswaran said that the pace could further accelerate if the bilateral trade agreement (BTA) between India and the United States is finalized soon.

"If there's a resolution on the trade front, it could push forecasts even higher," he added. However, the U.S. has imposed a 50 percent tariff on Indian goods since August 27, which includes a 25 percent penalty for crude oil imports from Russia.

The Trump administration's August 7 decision to maintain steep tariffs has impacted trade, but Nageswaran remains optimistic that ongoing talks could soon ease trade tensions and strengthen growth prospects.

Credit card spending hits record ₹ 2.17L cr

NEW DELHI

India's credit card spending surged 23% year-on-year in September to reach a record Rs 2.17 lakh crore, the highest level since 2020, according to a CareEdge Ratings report released on Friday.

The increase was largely driven by festive offers from banks, rising consumer demand, and the impact of GST rate reductions that encouraged higher discretionary spending. While impressive, this growth was slightly lower than the 24% expansion recorded during the same period last year.

Private sector banks (PVBs) continued to dominate the market, accounting for 74.2% of total spending in September 2025, though this marked a small decline of 130 basis points from last year. Meanwhile, public sector banks (PSBs) improved their market share to 21.2%, up from 18.4% a year earlier.

The total number of active credit cards rose from 10.6 crore in September 2024 to 11.3 crore in September 2025, showing steady growth in card adoption. Average monthly spending per card at private banks stood at Rs 20,011, up 3% year-on-year. PSBs saw a stronger 30% jump, with average per-card spending at Rs 16,927.

However, the share of credit card balances in total retail loans fell slightly to 4.5%, compared to 4.9% a year ago, signaling a gradual shift toward other retail lending categories.

As of September 2025, India's total credit card outstanding balances stood at Rs 2.82 lakh crore, up modestly from Rs 2.72 lakh crore a year earlier, reflecting controlled credit growth amid rising consumption trends.

KOSPI falls nearly 2% amid AI bubble, trade fears

SEOUL

South Korea's KOSPI index dropped 1.81%, closing at 3,953.76, as investors fretted over AI stock overvaluation and renewed US-China trade tensions. Big-cap tech firms led losses, with Samsung Electronics down 1.31% and SK hynix falling 2.19%. Hyundai Motor and Kia also declined, while Kakao gained 3.46% on strong earnings. Foreign and institutional investors sold shares, while retail investors continued buying. The Korean won fell below 1,450 against the US dollar for the first time since April.

India's gold ETFs see record $850 million inflows

MUMBAI

India's gold exchange-traded funds (ETFs) recorded net inflows of $850 million in October, bringing the total for 2025 to a record $3.05 billion, the highest-ever annual inflow, according to data from the World Gold Council (WGC).

Although October's inflows were 6% lower than September's $911 million, it marked the second-largest monthly inflow in Asia, showing continued investor confidence in gold amid global economic uncertainty.

This was the fifth straight month of positive inflows, pushing India's total assets under management (AUM) in gold ETFs to $11.3 billion, the data revealed.

Globally, gold ETFs saw $8.2 billion in net inflows during October, positioning 2025 as one of the strongest years for the bullion market. India ranked third worldwide, behind the US ($6.33 billion) and China ($4.51 billion). Japan followed with $499.5 million, while France saw $312 million in inflows.

In contrast, several European markets witnessed significant outflows, led by the UK ($3.5 billion), followed by Germany and Italy.

The global gold ETF AUM rose 6% month-on-month to $503 billion, with holdings up 1% to 3,893 tonnes.

Meanwhile, the price of 10 grams of 24-carat gold slipped to Rs 1,20,231 on Friday, according to the India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA), as investors booked profits. Experts said a softer US dollar, rising geopolitical tensions, and fears of a US government shutdown pushed investors toward safe-haven assets like gold.

Analyst Rahul Kalantri of Mehta Equities noted that gold faces support near Rs 1,19,280–1,19,870 and resistance at Rs 1,21,090–1,21,600.

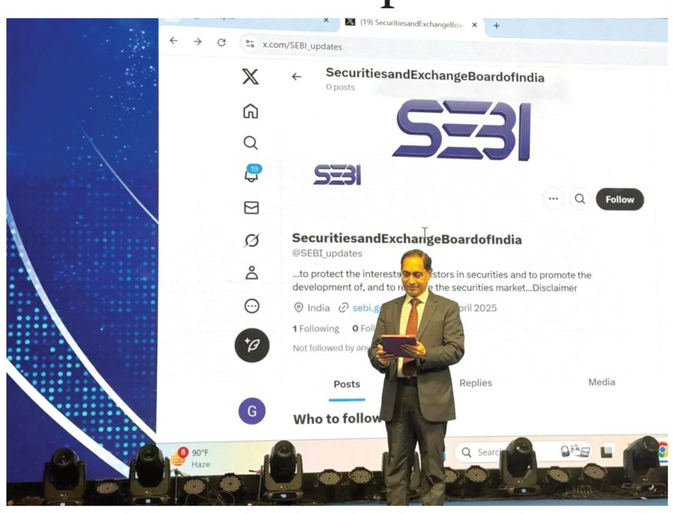
Capital markets key to India's 'Viksit Bharat' goal: SEBI Chairperson

MUMBAI

India's journey toward becoming a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed Nation) will be powered by the strength of its capital markets, said SEBI Chairperson Tuhin Kanta Pandey on Friday. He stressed that capital formation through markets will play a crucial role in supporting the nation's long-term growth ambitions.

Speaking at an event in Mumbai, Pandey revealed that Indian companies have raised nearly Rs 2 lakh crore from the primary market in 2025, reflecting strong investor confidence. "There is a deep well of domestic capital waiting to be deployed," he said, adding that SEBI is committed to making capital-raising faster and simpler for businesses.

"We are facilitators of capital formation," Pandey said. "Our goal is to help businesses raise funds seamlessly to power India's growth and transformation."



He described SEBI's strategy as "optimum regulation" — striking a balance between investor protection and innovation. "We've made several regulatory changes and will continue a consultative approach," he noted.

Highlighting the potential in mutual funds, Pandey said that mutual fund assets under management (AUM) are still below 25% of GDP, with participation from urban investors at 15% and rural investors at just 6%. "There's a huge opportunity in deepening mutual fund penetration," he added, noting that 22% of non-investors aware of mutual funds plan to invest within a year.

Pandey also said SEBI will review short-selling and securities lending and borrowing norms to match global standards. He acknowledged that India's securities lending market remains underdeveloped but assured continued reforms to improve transparency, liquidity, and investor confidence.

VEHICLE SALES SPIKE

Festive season and GST reforms boost auto sales

NEW DELHI

India's automobile sector recorded its highest-ever monthly sales in October, with total vehicle retail touching 4.02 million units, a 40.5% jump compared to 2.87 million units in the same month last year, according to data released by the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA).

The remarkable rise was driven by the GST 2.0 reforms, a 42-day festive period, and a strong rural recovery. Passenger vehicle sales reached 5.57 lakh units, marking an 11% growth, while two-wheelers saw their best-ever month with 31.5 lakh units, up 52% year-on-year.

Commercial vehicles also rose by 17.7%, supported by increasing freight movement, rural logistics, and infrastructure growth. Tractor sales grew 14.2%, reflecting strong rural demand.

FADA President C.S. Vigneshwar described October as a "landmark month" for India's auto retail sector. He said the combination of festive excitement, tax cuts, and pent-up demand following the GST 2.0 transition led to an extraordinary rebound in sales.

GST rate cuts, especially on entry-level two-wheelers and small cars, made vehicles more affordable, particularly for first-time buyers in rural areas. Strong monsoon rains and higher farm incomes also supported rural spending.

Dealers reported record customer enquiries and faster conversions, while passenger vehicle inventory improved by nearly a week.

Vigneshwar said the GST 2.0 reform proved truly transformational, helping "turn sentiment into action." He called the festive period a milestone for Indian auto retail, representing "Simpler Tax, Stronger Growth," and marking the rise of "Bharat" as the nation's new growth engine.

Rashmika thanks Vijay for support, calls 'The Girlfriend' a powerful story

Actress Rashmika Mandanna expressed heartfelt gratitude to her rumoured fiancé Vijay Deverakonda after he praised her latest Telugu film, The Girlfriend. Sharing her feelings on X, Rashmika wrote, "It IS something powerful. It IS something important. It IS going to be hard to digest – so well put! Thank you. It's a slow burn that lasts long."

Rashmika revealed that Vijay had supported the project since its early stages and said she hoped he would be proud of her work. Earlier, Vijay had shared the film's trailer and lauded the cast and crew, saying, "They have made something powerful and important. What Rahul Ravindran has created with Rashmika, Dheekshith Shetty, and Anu Emmanuel will create an impact."

His warm words and her grateful response have reignited buzz about their reported engagement. As per sources, the Dear Comrade co-stars got engaged in a private ceremony on October 3 at Vijay's Hyderabad home, with their wedding reportedly set for February 2026. However, neither has officially confirmed the news.

The Girlfriend, written and directed by Rahul Ravindran, hit theatres on November 7. The film follows a woman who asks for a "small break" in her relationship, leading her partner to reveal his volatile side. Rashmika will next be seen in Cocktail 2.

'Chikiri Chikiri' *wins hearts with A.R. Rahman's catchy tune*

The first single "Chikiri Chikiri" from Ram Charan's much-awaited sports drama Peddi has dropped — and it's already creating waves. Composed by A.R. Rahman and sung by Mohit Chauhan, the track stands out for its infectious rhythm and visually appealing music video.

Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, Peddi features Ram Charan and Janhvi Kapoor in the lead roles. The film, set for a global release on March 27, 2026, follows the journey of a mountain dweller whose life changes when he encounters the girl of his dreams in a village setting.

Lyricist Balaji captures the spark of first love with poetic simplicity, while Rahman's music blends earthy folk energy with modern beats, making the tune both rooted and refreshing. Mohit Chauhan's expressive vocals bring the melody alive, and Jani Master's choreography injects youthful vibrance into the visuals.

Ram Charan, known for his screen presence and dance prowess, shines with effortless grace and energy, making "Chikiri Chikiri" a track that's bound to climb the charts.

Manoj calls 'The Family Man 3' his true homecoming

Celebrated actor Manoj Bajpayee is returning as Srikant Tiwari in the much-awaited third season of "The Family Man," calling the experience a "true homecoming." The hit Amazon Prime Video series, created by Raj and DK, is set to premiere on November 21.

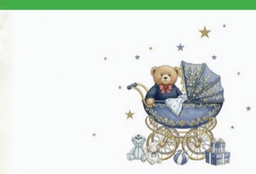
"For four years, fans have constantly asked me, 'Kab aa raha hai Srikant Tiwari?' Now, we finally have an answer," Bajpayee shared. "This season is bigger, bolder, and more thrilling than ever, taking Srikant to his toughest challenge yet."

The trailer, released on Friday, opens with Srikant confessing to his family that he's actually a spy. But the twist comes when he is framed as a wanted criminal, forcing him to flee with his family. He finds an ally in JK (Sharib Hashmi) while facing powerful enemies—Nimrat Kaur as a mastermind plotting his downfall, and Jaideep Ahlawat as a ruthless drug lord from the Northeast.

Jaideep Ahlawat expressed his excitement about joining the show, praising Raj and DK's creative storytelling. "Viewers will be surprised by my role," he hinted.

The new season features Priyamani, Shreya Dhanwanthary, Gul Panag, Ashlesha Thakur, and Vedant Sinha, alongside the returning core cast. Fans can expect high-stakes action, family drama, and Srikant's most dangerous mission yet.

Katrina & Vicky welcome baby boy



Our bundle of joy has arrived.
With immense love and gratitude,
we welcome our
baby boy.

7th November, 2025

Katrina & Vicky

Bollywood's beloved couple, Katrina Kaif and Vicky Kaushal, have welcomed a baby boy, filling fans and the film industry with joy.

The couple shared the happy news on Instagram, writing, "Our bundle of joy has arrived. With immense love and gratitude, we welcome our baby boy. 7th November, 2025. Blessed. Om."

The announcement quickly went viral, with celebrities pouring in their wishes.

Priyanka Chopra congratulated them on her Instagram story, while Kiara Advani wrote, "Heartiest congratulations mama and papa! #Classof2025." Parineeti Chopra added, "Play dates just got their newest member!" Fans across social media celebrated the arrival, showering the new parents with love and blessings.

Katrina and Vicky had announced their pregnancy on September 23, 2025, with a tender photo and caption, "On our way to start the best chapter of our lives." Married since December 9, 2021, the couple now begins a beautiful new chapter together.

Mahesh Manjrekar, Dilip Prabhavalkar shine in 'Dashavatar'

Veteran actors Mahesh Manjrekar and Dilip Prabhavalkar will star in the upcoming Marathi mythological drama 'Dashavatar', directed by Subodh Khanolkar, which is set to premiere on ZEE5 from November 14.

Director Khanolkar described the film as a heartfelt tribute to his childhood memories from the Konkan region. "Dashavatar is not just a story; it's a reflection of the grandeur of nature, art, and tradition that shaped my upbringing," he said. "Our folk arts and landscapes are deeply connected, and this film celebrates that vibrant spirit." Set against the scenic backdrop of Konkan, the story follows Babuli Mestri, played by Dilip Prabhavalkar, a devoted Dashavatari performer determined to preserve the sacred folk theatre form despite his fading eyesight. 'Dashavatar' promises to deliver a divine cinematic journey for audiences worldwide starting Nov 14.

JENNIFER LAWRENCE

reveals 'Miss Piggy' movie inspired by cancel culture

Oscar-winning actress Jennifer Lawrence has opened up about the inspiration behind her upcoming Miss Piggy movie, calling the beloved Muppet a true "feminist icon." The film, currently in development with her friend Emma Stone, marks Miss Piggy's first solo outing since her debut on The Muppet Show in 1976.

Speaking on The Tonight Show, Lawrence shared that the idea struck during the COVID-19 lockdown, at the height of cancel culture. "One of my friends said it would be so funny if Miss Piggy got canceled. That's not exactly the plot, but it got the wheels turning," she said. Lawrence explained that the concept grew from the idea of exploring Miss Piggy's larger-than-life personality in a modern setting. "There hasn't been a solo Miss Piggy project yet, so I started producing it. Emma Stone is the real Muppet expert — I'm just the ideas person," she added with a laugh.

Lawrence revealed that writer Cole is now developing the script, while both she and Stone hope to appear in the film. Miss Piggy, who began as a chorus character on The Muppet Show, became a cultural icon for her confidence, sass, and charm — often outshining her on-screen partner, Kermit the Frog.

TOM CRUISE PRAISES GLEN POWELL'S 'The Running Man' as thrilling ride

Hollywood star Tom Cruise couldn't stop praising Glen Powell's upcoming action thriller The Running Man, after attending its special screening. Taking to Instagram, the Mission: Impossible actor shared pictures with Powell, holding popcorn boxes designed with the film's title.

"Another great night out with my friends at the movies! You guys crushed it, congratulations! I laughed, was on the edge of my seat, and ate way too much popcorn," Cruise wrote. He also posed with director Edgar Wright and co-stars Coleman Domingo, Lee Pace, and Emilia Jones.

Powell responded with a cheerful post, writing, "The Running Man with THE Running Man," playfully referring to Cruise's reputation for his iconic on-screen sprints.

This isn't the first time Cruise has shown support for Powell. Earlier this year, he attended the London premiere of Twisters, where Powell captioned their photo, "When your wingman follows you into the storm." The two previously shared the screen in the blockbuster Top Gun: Maverick (2022), which earned over $1.5 billion worldwide.

Based on Stephen King's novel, The Running Man follows a working-class man who joins a deadly TV game show to save his sick daughter, surviving while being hunted by assassins for public entertainment.

The film, directed by Edgar Wright, is set to release in theatres on November 14.

Rukmini Vasanth Calls Prashanth Neel a Genius

Actress Rukmini Vasanth has sparked a wave of speculation online after calling director Prashanth Neel a "genius" during an Instagram Q&A session, leading fans to believe she may be part of the much-hyped #NTRNeel project starring Jr NTR.

Rukmini, fresh from the success of 'Kantara: Chapter 1', was asked by a fan to describe Neel in one word. Her simple response—"Genius"—set social media abuzz, especially amid growing rumors linking her to Neel's upcoming film with Jr NTR.

When another fan directly asked if she was part of the project, Rukmini playfully replied, "Aha, the worst kept secret of the season, isn't it? I think everyone already knows more than I'm allowed to say!" Though she didn't confirm her involvement, her cheeky answer was enough to send fans into a frenzy.

If true, the collaboration between Rukmini Vasanth, Prashanth Neel, and Jr NTR could be one of the biggest cinematic events of 2025. The film, produced by Mythri Movie Makers in association with NTR Arts, is scheduled to release on June 25 next year.

Michelle Pfeiffer embarks on a festive journey of self-discovery

Hollywood star Michelle Pfeiffer is set to charm audiences this holiday season with her new film "Oh. What. Fun.", a heartwarming Christmas drama directed by Michael Showalter. The makers have unveiled the official trailer, giving fans a glimpse into a touching story about rediscovering joy and self-worth amid holiday chaos.

Pfeiffer plays Claire Clauster, the ever-reliable matriarch who holds her boisterous family together every Christmas. From baking flawless cookies to wrapping perfect gifts, Claire is the heart of every celebration. But when her family accidentally leaves her behind during a planned outing, a fed-up Claire decides to embark on her own unexpected adventure. As her loved ones frantically search for her, Claire experiences the magic of an unplanned Christmas, finding new meaning in the festivities she once controlled so carefully.

Cristiano Ronaldo Explains Absence from Diogo Jota's Funeral

LISBON

Superstar Cristiano Ronaldo has finally addressed the criticism surrounding his absence from Diogo Jota's funeral, revealing that he has avoided visiting cemeteries since his father's death. The Al Nassr and Portugal captain faced backlash from fans who felt he should have attended the service to pay respects to his late teammate.

Jota and his brother Andre Filipe tragically died in a car crash on Spain's A-52 highway after their vehicle caught fire following a tyre blowout. Several Portuguese internationals, including Ruben Neves, Bernardo Silva, and Bruno Fernandes, were present at the funeral.

Speaking on Piers Morgan's podcast, Ronaldo said he was deeply affected by the news. "I didn't believe it when I got the messages. I cried a lot; it was a very difficult moment for the country, his family, and teammates," he said. "He was quiet, very humble — I really liked him."

Responding to criticism over his absence, Ronaldo clarified, "After my father died, I haven't been in a cemetery again. People criticise, but my conscience is clear. I didn't go because I didn't want attention to shift to me. Wherever I go, it becomes a circus."

Ronaldo says his absence was out of respect and to avoid media distraction.

The 40-year-old added that he had personally reached out to Jota's family to offer condolences and support. "I felt it was the right decision. I wanted the focus to remain on him and his family, not on me," Ronaldo said.

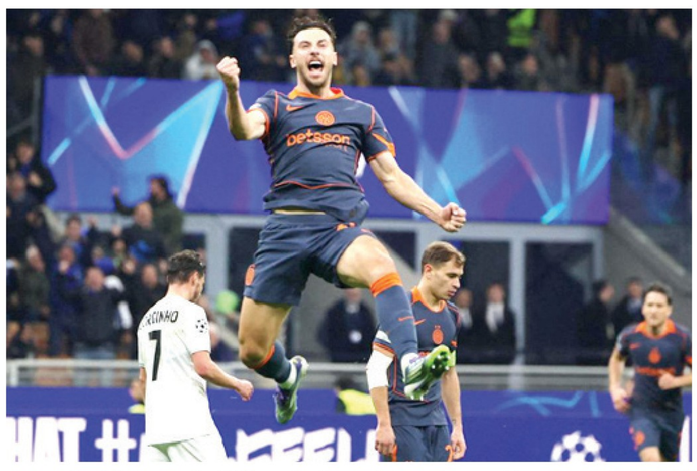
The Portugal captain's heartfelt explanation resonated with fans, who have since shown greater understanding of his emotional struggles and his decision to grieve privately.

Inter Perfect in Champions League; Barcelona Held

Inter, Bayern, and Arsenal maintain perfect records as Haaland, Foden star for City

MILAN

Inter Milan continued their flawless Champions League campaign with a 2-1 home victory over Kairat, joining Bayern Munich and Arsenal as the only sides with four wins from four matches. Goals from Lautaro Martínez and Carlos Augusto sealed the win for last season's runners-up after Ofri Arad briefly equalised for the visitors. "We knew we had to win the first four games — and we did," said defender Federico Dimarco.



At Club Brugge, Barcelona were held to a thrilling 3-3 draw, coming from behind three times. Teenager Lamine Yamal inspired the comeback with a goal and a key shot that led to an own goal. Carlos Forbs scored twice for Brugge, while Barça hit the woodwork three times. "A 3-3 draw isn't ideal, but we showed fight," said coach Hansi Flick.

In Manchester, Erling Haaland continued his prolific form, scoring his 27th goal of the season as City beat Borussia Dortmund 4-1. Phil Foden struck twice, with Rayan Cherki adding the fourth. "Every game he breaks a record," manager Pep Guardiola joked about Haaland, who has now scored in five straight Champions League games for three different clubs.

Elsewhere, Newcastle United beat Athletic Bilbao 2-0 at St. James' Park, with goals from Dan Burn and Joelinton, marking a third consecutive win and clean sheet. Chelsea drew 2-2 at Qarabag, with Alejandro Garnacho equalising in the second half. In Cyprus, Pafos earned a historic 1-0 victory over Villarreal, their first-ever league-phase win.

With the group stage at its halfway point, Inter, Bayern, and Arsenal remain the teams to beat in Europe's top competition.

Argentina star says winning WC was as profound as fatherhood moments

Messi Compares WC Joy to Children's Birth, Responds to Ronaldo's Dig

MIAMI

Lionel Messi has likened the joy of winning the 2022 FIFA World Cup with Argentina to the birth of his children, calling the experience "hard to explain" and deeply special. Messi reflected on the emotional magnitude of Argentina's triumph.

"With all due respect, because it has nothing to do with it, but when I won the World Cup, I had the same feeling as when my children were born. It's a feeling that's hard to explain, it's so special and so big that anything I say falls short," Messi said.

The Inter Miami star, an eight-time Ballon d'Or winner, recalled leading Argentina to victory in Qatar, scoring twice in the final against France and earning the Golden Ball as the tournament's best player. "The way the country celebrated showed how much we needed and wanted this to happen again after so long. Winning the World Cup is the ultimate. After that, you can't ask for anything more," he added.

Messi also reflected on completing his international achievements, noting that the World Cup filled the final gap after previous Copa América and club successes. "It was like closing out my entire career with that trophy," he said.

Meanwhile, longtime rival Cristiano Ronaldo recently downplayed Argentina's triumph, asking, "How many World Cups did Argentina win before Messi? I don't know, two times? It's normal."

Looking ahead to the 2026 World Cup across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, Messi expressed excitement but did not confirm participation. "I have very high expectations that the World Cup will be something extraordinary," he said, emphasizing the tournament's prestige and the challenge of defending Argentina's title.

Messi's comments highlight both his personal joy and the ongoing friendly rivalry with Ronaldo, keeping the global football narrative alive.

Ex-India No. 1 Questions Nepomniachtchi's WC Criticism

GOA

vFormer India No. 1 Pentala Harikrishna has criticised Ian Nepomniachtchi for his public remarks about the Chess World Cup conditions in Goa, following the Russian grandmaster's early exit from the second round. Nepomniachtchi lost to Indian GM Diptayan Ghosh, drawing the first game and succumbing in the second with black pieces.

Nepomniachtchi reportedly left the playing hall immediately after his defeat and checked out of his hotel an hour later. On his Telegram channel, he questioned the venue conditions, stating he wasn't "sad to leave." Harikrishna, however, felt the criticism was vague and unhelpful.

Harikrishna urges clear feedback instead of vague online comments on conditions.

"He has been criticising a lot of things lately, but it would be better if he clearly pointed out what he dislikes, rather than making statements that are open to numerous interpretations and speculation," Harikrishna said. He emphasised that constructive feedback could lead to improvements, but public statements without clarity create confusion.

Harikrishna also suggested Nepomniachtchi should have approached FIDE or the organising committee directly. "This is an event with a huge prize fund and high stakes. A lot of effort from various people goes into it. Organising an event at any level is not easy, especially a World Cup… it's incredibly hard to secure funding. So, it's best to clearly state if there was an issue," he said.

The World Cup has already seen several big names exit early, including Vassily Ivanchuk, Wesley So, and David Navara, highlighting the competition's unpredictability. Diptayan's victory over Nepomniachtchi was hailed as a career-defining moment, with Harikrishna praising the young Indian's bold strategy.

Harikrishna's comments underline the importance of constructive dialogue in chess, urging players to raise concerns through proper channels rather than through social media, to maintain the integrity and smooth conduct of global events.

Healy Still 'Haunted' by India Loss, Says She Didn't Watch Wc Final

SYDNEY

Australia captain Alyssa Healy admitted that her team's semi-final defeat to India in the ICC Women's World Cup still haunts her, calling it a loss that "will hurt for a little while." Speaking on the Willow Talk podcast, Healy reflected on India's historic chase of 339 runs, the highest-ever in World Cup knockout history, which denied Australia a shot at the title.

Healy said she hasn't watched the final, where India defeated South Africa to lift the trophy. "We played some incredible cricket but didn't get over a certain Indian hurdle," she said. "We're playing great cricket, but that loss will stay with me for a bit."

Australia had posted 338, with Phoebe Litchfield's maiden World Cup century and Ash Gardner's late fireworks, but Healy felt they left runs out there. "I actually thought it was under-par. We were looking at 350-plus when Pez and Phoebe were in," she said.

Reflecting on the chase, Healy highlighted how conditions under lights at DY Patil Stadium shifted. "The red soil played slower early but slid on later. We didn't adapt quickly enough," she admitted.

Shastri Recalls How He Stopped Sachin from Sledging

NEW DELHI

Former India head coach Ravi Shastri has revealed a fiery exchange from the 1991-92 Sydney Test when a young Sachin Tendulkar wanted to give the Australians a verbal reply. Shastri, however, told the teenage prodigy to "shut up" and let his batting do the talking.

Shastri recalled scoring a double century in that match while Tendulkar notched a fluent 148. The Australians, led by the Waugh brothers, were constantly sledging the youngster. "Mike Whitney came on as 12th man and was mouthing off. I told him, 'If you could throw as well as you can talk, you wouldn't be the 12th man of Australia,'" Shastri recalled.

Amused and inspired, Tendulkar told Shastri he too would sledge the Aussies after reaching his hundred. "I told him, 'You shut up. You've got enough class; your bat will do the talking. Let me do the talking,'" Shastri said.

True to his senior's words, Tendulkar stayed silent but majestic with the bat, helping India post a strong total.

Ahmedabad to Host 2026 T20 WC Final; 5 Venues Shortlisted

NEW DELHI

The BCCI has finalised Ahmedabad, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, and Mumbai as the venues for the 2026 ICC T20 World Cup, with the final set to be played at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium, the world's largest cricket arena. The upcoming edition, scheduled for February–March 2026, will be co-hosted by Sri Lanka, which will act as a neutral venue for Pakistan, as per an ICC-brokered agreement.

Ahmedabad also hosted the 2023 ODI World Cup final between India and Australia. This time, the event will feature fewer venues than the previous edition, which spanned ten cities. Notably, Bengaluru has been excluded following the stampede tragedy during RCB's IPL title celebrations in June, which left 11 people dead and led to the suspension of matches at the Chinnaswamy Stadium.

According to ICC sources, the tournament schedule will be released next week, confirming Sri Lanka's three venues, including Colombo. If Pakistan qualify for the final, it will be shifted to Sri Lanka under the neutral-venue clause.

India, the defending champions after their triumph in Barbados in June 2024, will start as strong favourites on home soil. The shortlisted Indian venues, all Tier-1 cricket cities, are expected to attract packed stadiums throughout the tournament.

Alyssa Healy Still 'Haunted' by India Loss, Says She Didn't Watch WC Final

SYDNEY

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BENGALURU

Footballer Gives up Aus Citizenship to Play for India, Set for Debut

Ryan Williams, 31, has relinquished his Australian citizenship to represent India and has been added to the national camp ahead of the AFC Asian Cup qualifier against Bangladesh on November 18. Born in Perth, Williams previously played for Australia's U-20, U-23, and senior teams, and has represented clubs including Fulham, Portsmouth, and Bengaluru FC. Williams' mother is Anglo-Indian, and he expressed his pride on Instagram, calling India "one of his own." AIFF chief Kalyan Chaubey confirmed Sunil Chhetri facilitated the process. Also added to the camp is 27-year-old defender Abneet Bharti, based in Brazil, playing for Academia del Balompié Boliviano.

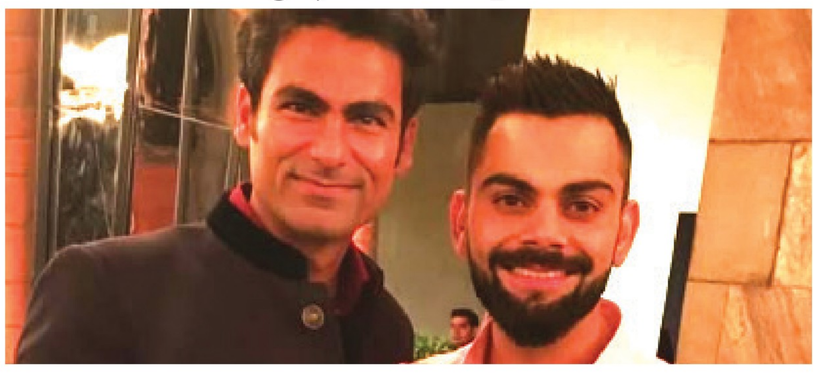
LOS ANGELES

LeBron James Cleared for Contact Drills, Mid-Nov Return Target Set

LeBron James, 40, has been cleared to resume contact basketball activities as he recovers from a sciatica injury that sidelined him at the start of the Lakers' record 23rd NBA season. Reports indicate James will be re-evaluated in 1–2 weeks, with his first live 5-on-5 scrimmage expected either in G League practice or after the team's road trip. Coach JJ Redick cautioned there is no fixed return date but hopes James can suit up around mid-November. Meanwhile, the Lakers have thrived without him, posting a 7-2 start, led by Luka Dončić, Austin Reaves, Rui Hachimura, DeAndre Ayton, and Marcus Smart.

NEW DELHI

Kaif on Kohli: "Calmer, Wiser, Still Hungry for Improvement"



Former India cricketer Mohammad Kaif lauded Virat Kohli's transformation over the years, noting that fatherhood and maturity have made him calmer without diminishing his competitive spirit. Recalling an IPL encounter against Punjab Kings, Kaif highlighted Kohli's composed approach even while hitting a boundary off Kagiso Rabada on a tricky seaming track. Kaif added that Kohli continues to seek improvement despite years at the top and treats former teammates with the same respect as ever. "If he called you a brother before, he will call you a brother now as well," Kaif said, emphasizing Kohli's consistency in character and dedication to the game.

India Target Batting Consistency in Final T20I

India aim to end Australian tour on a high, seeking batting consistency

BRISBANE

On the verge of another overseas series triumph, India will look to iron out batting inconsistencies and seal the five-match T20I series against Australia when the two sides meet for the fifth and final clash today. With an unassailable 2-1 lead, India have extended their 17-year unbeaten streak in T20I series in Australia.

Focus will be on Shubman Gill and skipper Suryakumar Yadav's batting, while Australia hopes to counter India's potent spin attack ahead of next year's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka. India displayed improved tactical awareness in the previous match on a tricky Carrara pitch, with Gill contributing 46 in a promising 121 for 2 start before a late collapse.

Vice-captain Gill is eager to convert starts into substantial innings, while Suryakumar aims to lead by example. Tilak Varma and wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma will also seek to find form. Abhishek Sharma, the world's top-ranked T20 hitter, has provided brisk starts, complemented by contributions from the lower order, including Axar Patel's quickfire 21 off 11 balls.

India's bowling has been led by Arshdeep Singh and Jasprit Bumrah, with spinners Varun Chakaravarthy, Axar Patel, and Washington Sundar dominating despite Kuldeep Yadav's absence. Shivam Dube and Washington Sundar have excelled with both bat and ball.

Australia's batting has relied heavily on Mitchell Marsh, Marcus Stoinis, and Tim David, while the absence of Travis Head and Josh Hazlewood has been felt. Matthew Short, batting lower in the series, will aim to impress at the top, and debutant Mahli Beardman could feature.

BCB Probes Sexual Harassment Claims by Former Captain

DHAKA

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has initiated an investigation after former women's captain Jahanara Alam accused former and current officials of sexual harassment. The 32-year-old pacer spoke in a YouTube interview about incidents during the 2022 Women's World Cup in South Africa, naming then-selector and team manager Manjurul Islam among those involved.

BCB launches inquiry into allegations of sexual misconduct in women's cricket.

Jahanara alleged that Manjurul "made inappropriate physical contact" and "often hugged or pressed female players to his chest" under the guise of encouragement. She urged the board to question other team members who may have witnessed similar behavior. Jahanara also highlighted that she had previously reported her concerns to the BCB, but no action had been taken at the time.

Manjurul, who is currently in China, denied the accusations, calling them "baseless" and insisting, "You can ask other girls in the team. This is all false." The 46-year-old former left-arm seamer represented Bangladesh in 12 Tests and 34 ODIs between 1999 and 2004 and has held various coaching and managerial roles since retiring from international cricket.

Jahanara, who claimed 48 wickets in ODIs and 60 in T20Is across 135 matches, also named other officials in her complaint, prompting the BCB to act. The board confirmed that a committee has been formed to investigate and submit its findings within 15 working days.

BCB vice-president Shakhawat Hossain emphasized the seriousness of the matter, stating, "We have to investigate this, since it's a serious matter." In a statement late Thursday, the board reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining a "safe, respectful, and professional environment" for all players. The inquiry marks a significant step in addressing concerns over harassment in Bangladesh's women's cricket setup, with the cricketing community closely monitoring developments.

Focus Beats Boundary Pressure, says Axar Patel

CARRARA

India's dependable all-rounder Axar Patel credited his evolution as a cricketer to lessons learned from past mistakes, particularly his earlier tendency to let boundary dimensions influence his shot-making. His composed 11-ball 21, featuring a four and a six in the final over off Marcus Stoinis, proved vital in India's 48-run victory over Australia in the fourth T20I on Friday.

Batting lower down the order with wickets falling regularly, Axar held his nerve and paced his innings intelligently. "I knew it was tough because wickets were falling back to back," he said in a chat with teammate Shivam Dube on 'bcci.tv'. "The message was to take it deep as there weren't many batsmen left. I decided to back myself in the last over. The side boundaries were big, but I thought if I could hold my shape and watch the ball closely, I could clear them."

Reflecting on his growth, the 31-year-old said he previously made the mistake of letting boundary size dictate his shots. "When I think about boundary size, I end up pre-determining my shots and making mistakes. I've learnt to play freely and with focus," he added.

Besides his quickfire runs, Axar picked up two crucial wickets, earning the player of the match award. One of them came through a well-judged DRS call against Matthew Short. "I'm not usually someone who takes reviews, but this time I felt the ball was hitting. After checking with Jitesh, we went for it — and it worked," he said.

Explaining his bowling approach, Axar noted that the pitch didn't favor spinners.

WPL 2026: Harmanpreet, Mandhana, Rodrigues Retained

NEW DELHI

India's World Cup-winning stalwarts Harmanpreet Kaur, Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues, and Shafali Verma are among the high-profile names retained by Women's Premier League (WPL) franchises for the 2026 season, according to reports. Their retention underscores the franchises' focus on continuity and proven performers as the league heads toward its second mega auction. As per the reports, defending champions Mumbai Indians and Delhi Capitals have retained five players each — the maximum allowed under WPL regulations. Royal Challengers Bengaluru have kept four players, Gujarat Giants two, and UP Warriorz just one. Star Indian all-rounder Deepti Sharma and Australia's captain Alyssa Healy did not make the retention lists.

World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka overpowered Coco Gauff to secure semi's spot

Sabalenka Downs Gauff to Enter Semifinals at WTA Finals in Riyadh

RIYADH

Top-ranked Aryna Sabalenka continued her dominant run at the WTA Finals, defeating defending champion Coco Gauff 7-6 (5), 6-2 to top her group and reach the semifinals. The win also eliminated Gauff from the tournament.

With three straight group-stage victories, Sabalenka joined Jessica Pegula in the last four. Pegula earlier beat Italy's Jasmine Paolini 6-2, 6-3 to finish second in the group with a 2-1 record. Gauff ended 1-2, while Paolini went winless in her debut appearance at the season-ending event featuring the world's top eight players.

Sabalenka will face Amanda Anisimova in Friday's semifinal — a rematch of this year's U.S. Open final — while Pegula meets Elena Rybakina.

Gauff started strongly, breaking Sabalenka twice in the first set and even serving for it at 5-4. But Sabalenka fought back with her trademark power, chasing down a drop shot and blasting a forehand winner to level the score. "I was already preparing for the second set," Sabalenka admitted. "Something clicked, and breaking back gave me confidence that I still had it."

In the tiebreaker, Gauff led 4-2 before faltering with a backhand error and a double fault, allowing Sabalenka to seize momentum. The Belarusian then broke early in the second set and dominated from there.

"I had a lot of chances in the first set," Gauff said. "It was disappointing not to take it. She raised her level and I couldn't keep up."

The victory extended Sabalenka's unbeaten streak in the tournament and set up another high-voltage encounter against Anisimova, as the Belarusian eyes her second WTA Finals title and a strong finish to a stellar season.

Verstappen Seeks Luck and Pace Boost to Revive Title Challenge

SAO PAULO

Max Verstappen admitted he might need a touch of luck to stay alive in the Formula One championship battle as the 2025 season enters its final stretch. The Red Bull driver sits 36 points behind McLaren's Lando Norris and 35 adrift of his team-mate Oscar Piastri, with just four rounds remaining.

Speaking ahead of this weekend's Sao Paulo Grand Prix at Interlagos, where he has won the last two editions, Verstappen acknowledged that Red Bull's recent pace has not matched McLaren's race-day form. "We've had some good weekends where the gap came down," he said. "But with only four races left, it's still quite big. I'll need to score a lot more points every weekend, which is not that straightforward."

Red Bull trails McLaren in both championships, and Verstappen is counting on stronger competition from Ferrari and Mercedes to slow the McLarens' momentum. "Being faster than them would be nice," he said of the rival teams. "But first of all, we need to be faster than McLaren from now to the end of the season."

The Dutchman hopes to extend his winning streak in Brazil and believes a boost in form — or a dose of fortune — could tilt the fight back in his favour. "If you gave me the 2023 season and told me I was 36 points behind with four races to go, I'd say no problem," he added. "But this season has been quite different. Maybe I need a little bit of luck in one round."

Take a Bow as Sheetal Matches the Able-Bodied

CHENNAI

Sheetal Devi's name, meaning 'cool' and 'calm,' captures perfectly the poise of India's extraordinary para-archer who continues to shatter barriers. Born without arms, Sheetal uses her legs to hold the bow and her mouth to release the string — a technique both graceful and awe-inspiring. On Thursday, she reached a new milestone by becoming the first para-archer in India to earn selection in the junior able-bodied national team for the Asia Cup Stage 3 in Jeddah next month.

Her journey has already been decorated with medals at the Paralympics and the Para World Archery Championships, but Sheetal's ambitions were never limited to para events. Determined to compete with able-bodied athletes, she relocated from Katra in Jammu to Patiala to train under Gaurav Sharma. It was there that her dedication, focus, and technique began drawing admiration from coaches and competitors alike.

Sheetal often credits Turkish archer Oznur Cure Girdi, another para-athlete who competes in able-bodied events, as her inspiration. "I didn't make it at first, but I kept going, learning from every setback. Today, that dream is one step closer," she wrote on social media, reflecting her characteristic humility and perseverance.

Her coach, Gaurav Sharma, praised her fierce determination. "She was coming back after a month's break, and we just wanted her to compete again," he said. "We didn't think beyond that. All she wanted was to perform well, and her qualification proves how hard she worked."

BENGALURU

Shanth Kumar to Contest for KSCA President's Post

Former Deccan Herald and Prajavani Editor K N Shanth Kumar will contest for the president's post in the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) elections scheduled for November 30, 2025. He is likely to face former India pacer Venkatesh Prasad, who is expected to contest from a rival panel. A Director at The Printers (Mysore) Pvt. Ltd., publishers of Deccan Herald and Prajavani, Shanth Kumar is a former president of the Press Trust of India. Having covered eight Olympics as a photojournalist, he has been associated with sports administration for over three decades. A former Karnataka Olympic Association president, he oversees the Nettakallappa Sports Foundation, founded by his late father K N Nettakallappa.

FAISALABAD

De Kock Revives Career with Century in Dominant Win

Quinton de Kock marked his international comeback with a fluent unbeaten 123 off 119 balls as South Africa thrashed Pakistan by eight wickets in the second ODI to level the series 1-1. Chasing 270, the Proteas cruised home in 40.1 overs, powered by de Kock's 22nd ODI ton and a 153-run stand with Tony de Zorzi (76). Earlier, Nandre Burger (4-46) and Nqabayomzi Peter (3-55) produced career-best figures to restrict Pakistan to 269-9 despite fifties from Salman Ali Agha (69) and Saim Ayub (53). De Kock, who reversed his 2023 ODI retirement, anchored a dominant chase on Faisalabad's return to international cricket after 17 years. The series decider is on November 8.

TURIN

Alcaraz Drawn with Djokovic, Sinner with Zverev in ATP Finals Groups

Top seed Carlos Alcaraz has been drawn in the same group as Novak Djokovic for the ATP Finals, which begin Sunday in Turin. The Jimmy Connors Group features Alcaraz, Djokovic, Taylor Fritz, and Alex de Minaur. Defending champion Jannik Sinner headlines the Bjorn Borg Group with Alexander Zverev, Ben Shelton, and either Felix Auger-Aliassime or Lorenzo Musetti, who are battling for the final qualifying spot. Djokovic's participation remains uncertain as he competes in Athens and will decide after the tournament. The top two players from each group will reach the semifinals, with the final set for November 16. Alcaraz and Sinner are also vying for the year-end No. 1 ranking.

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